

**SOMUCH
POKER**

PLAYING LIVE POKER IN ASIA

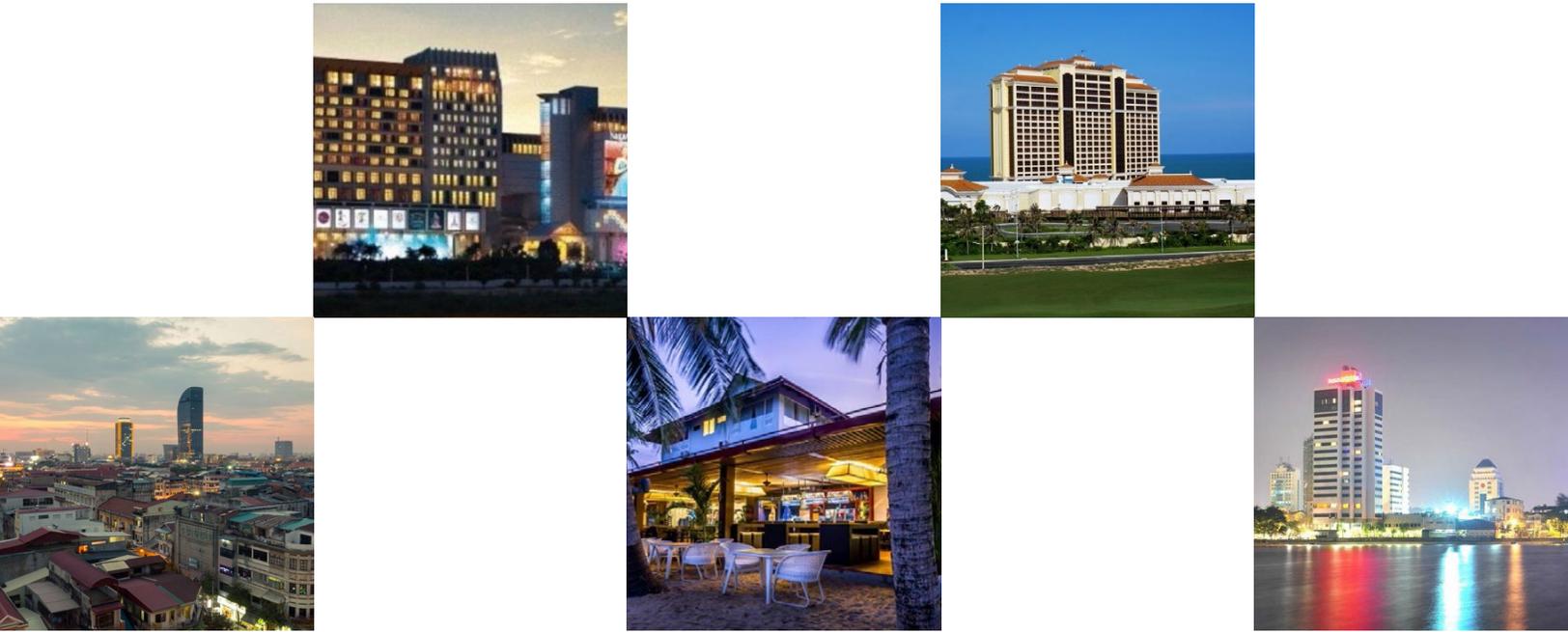
THE ULTIMATE GUIDE



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INTRODUCTION

In Somuchpoker.com, it has always been our goal to provide poker players with the most extensive news and information about the poker scene in the Asia Pacific region. As poker players ourselves, we always want to know where the action is at, especially when we go around the Asia Pacific to attend tournaments or when we just want to kick back, travel, relax and have fun.

That is what has pushed us to collect all the information we could get our hands on about poker rooms, game offerings and places to go in each significant destination in Asia.

This endeavor was far from easy. We faced numerous challenges –from the cost of travel, to accuracy of details, to language barriers and finally to difficulties caused by

certain legalities in particular countries. But at the end our efforts are not for nothing. We have gather enough information to present “Playing Live Poker in Asia The Ultimate Guide”

If in the compilation of information, we may have missed certain details, or misrepresented some fine points due to miscommunication, or if changes in the circumstances of countries or poker rooms have changed since the release of this booklet, please let us know so that we can update our info accordingly.

We hope that you find this booklet useful and enjoyable in the same way that we found collecting it a blast.

So go ahead, Travel and Play Poker!



ABOUT **SOMUCHPOKER**

Somuchpoker.com is a news site dedicated primarily on the poker community living in the Asia Pacific region. Founded by poker players based in South East Asia in 2014, Somuchpoker's main goal is to provide the latest poker news and information from around the world, with greater focus on the happenings in the Asian Market. It covers news from Down-Under to the tropical paradise of South East Asia, to the Land of the Rising Sun and even gets the hottest news from the most secret corners of Mainland China. Somuchpoker is currently the 1st Source of poker information in Asia.

OUR WORK

» We provide news on: Casinos, High Stakes Cash Games tournaments, Online

Grinders, Live Players, and anything and everything about Gaming.

- » We are closely linked with poker circuits happening in Asia to be able to provide live coverage of tournaments, the results of finished events as well as schedules for upcoming tours and festivals.
- » We contribute in the improvement of our readers by giving and sharing free game strategy articles and tips.
- » We produce videos and maintain our own YouTube Channel to give our audience a holistic experience of what's happening in Asia.
- » We partner with online platforms to provide online players with the best deals – including Bonuses, Rakeback in all networks. We support players with Skrill, Cash-out, VPN and other issues

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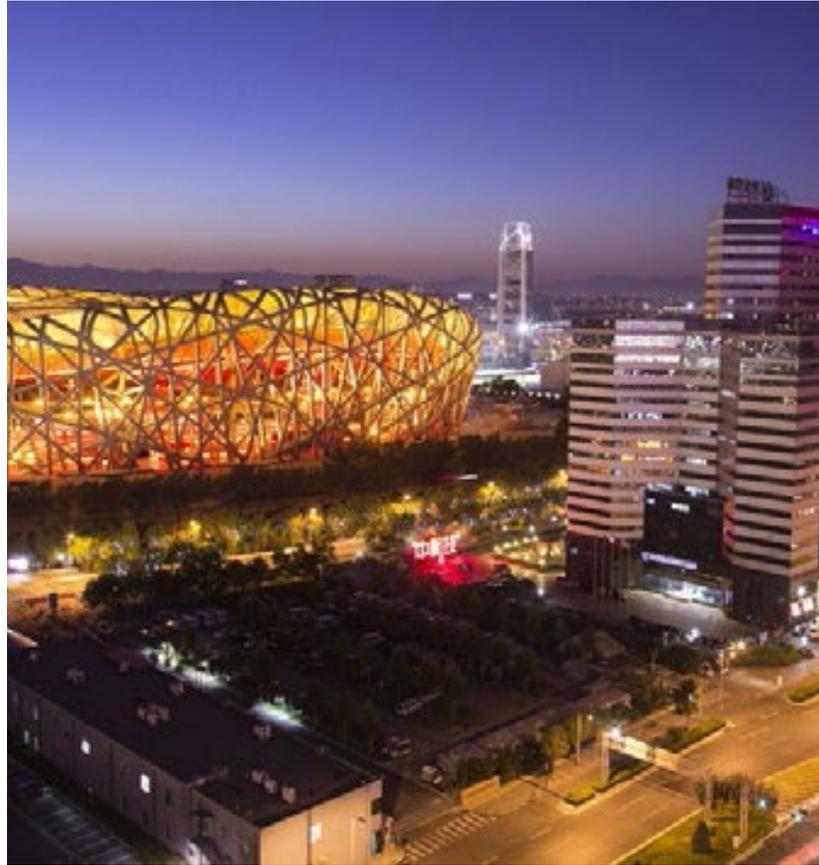
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POKER IN CAMBODIA

Capital:	Phnom Penh
Languages:	Khmer
Population:	15 million
Currency:	Riel / US Dollars
Calling code:	+85
Time zone:	(UTC +7)

There is a saying, an old Khmer proverb, in Cambodia that goes, “Ibaeng taeng vineah (Khmer: ល្មើតម្លៃជីវិត)”. This roughly translates to “Gambling destroys Life” and as such, gambling is illegal in the country.

Gambling had been illegal since the reign of the Khmer Rouge. But in the 1990s the government decided to start building casinos near the border to attract foreigners, espe-

cially the Thais and the Vietnamese, to cross over and play while prohibiting the locals from enjoying the same leisure. This had proven to be successful as the country enjoyed great revenue from the existence of these border casinos considered now to be a cash cow the Cambodian government could not live without.

Although a 50,000 Riel and a 1 month prison term has been



stipulated as the penalty for gambling, locals still continue to gamble while the government looks the other way. Locals enter the casinos freely without any fuss whatsoever. But this is not at all surprising because apart from the aforementioned revenue that casinos generate, there is a Cambodian belief that a man who does not gamble is not masculine enough.

The more popular border casino strips are Bavet on the Vietnamese border and Poipet on the Thai boundary.

However, NagaWorld, located at the heart of Phnom Penh, is the undisputed king of casinos in Cambodia. Having a monopoly over a 200km² radius of the capital, NagaWorld is the main casino to go to in South Indochina.

And being the most popular of all, and with the growing popularity of poker, Nagaworld is the only legal recourse to play the game in the



Kingdom. But their offering is quite unsatisfactory as they normally hold only about 2 tables with a \$1/\$2 limit every day.

Some will say that there is also Queenco Hotel & Casino, in the coastal city of Sihanoukville, offering the game of poker. But apart from the seasonal tournaments of the Asian Poker Tour (APT) in the area, cash games can only be had on demand.

Because of the limited options for poker in Cambodia, unauthorized venues are available and can easily be found.

Casinos with poker:



Nagaworld (Phnom Penh)



Queenco (Sihanoukville)



POKER AT NAGAWORLD

Nagaworld is a premier hotel & casino located in the heart of Phnom Penh. It is an entertainment complex which owns a 70-year casino licenses and 41 year monopoly within a 200km radius of Cambodia's capital city. It boasts 700 luxury rooms, a premium casino and state-of- the-art facilities making it a must-go destination for foreigners.

It is also the only casino that offers the game of poker. The poker room is located on the second floor within the sports book area. Poker games with limits of US\$1/US\$2 run every day and as a bonus, beers and soft drinks for players are on the house. The rake for games is good enough compared to its counterpart in other Asian countries. But the casino seems to be a bit lukewarm with the way they handle the poker room. One gets the impression that poker is not one of the priorities as it's not one of the revenue generating game of the complex. As such, poker players should not get their hopes up with regards to poker in Cambodia despite the luxuriousness of Nagaworld.

PLAYING POKER AT NAGAWORLD

CASH GAMES

No limit Holdem:

Tables: 2 tables

Stakes: 1/2 usd

A game is running every day(1 table most of the time). A 2/5 usd game is available from time to time.

POT (USD)	RAKE (USD)
\$30.00	\$1.00
\$60.00	\$2.00
\$100.00	\$3.00
\$150.00	\$5.00
\$250.00	\$10.00
\$400.00	\$20.00



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS:

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Park, Phnom Penh

CONTACT NUMBER: +855 23 228 822

WEBSITE: <http://www.nagaworld.com/>



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contact@somuchpoker.com

POKER AT QUEENCO



Queenco Hotel & Casino is located along the Victory Beach in Sihanoukville, Cambodia. Apart from enjoying the beautiful white sands of the beach, Queenco offers a colonial style beach front building with 58 rooms & suites and a newly renovated, more modern hotel with 141 rooms & suites with scenic views. It also offers 2 Fusion restaurants, 1 Italian restaurant and a casino with gaming machines, gaming tables and a dedicated Texas Holdem poker area.

The poker room is separated from the main casino and runs cash games. However, it is best to call before visiting as games can be irregular especially during low season.

PLAYING POKER AT QUEENCO

CASH GAMES

No Limit Holdem:
\$0.5/1 & \$0.5/\$0.5

RAKE: 5% max \$10

TIME: Running daily

Tournaments

The APT Asian Poker Series Cambodia is hosted in the casino



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Street Vithey Krong Victory Beach, Sihanoukville, Cambodia

CONTACT NUMBER: +855 81 825 400

HOW TO GO THERE: 3 hours by bus taxi from Phnom Penh





POKER IN CHINA

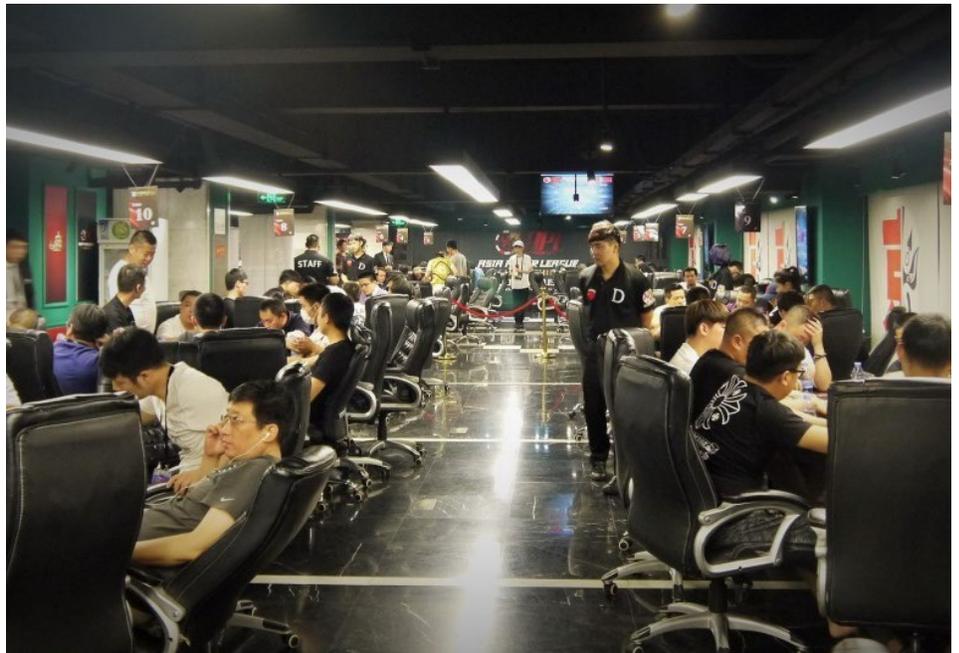
Capital:	Beijing
Languages:	Standard Mandarin
Population:	1.357 billion (2013)
Currency:	Renminbi
Calling code:	+86
Time zone:	UTC+08:00

“Poker is booming in China” – You may have already heard this said numerous times. As a matter of fact, for players in Asia and in other continents, it has been a trendy topic of discussion. It’s been talked about so much that some media have started to write about it by reporting an increase in the number of participants in tournaments hosted in Macau.

But the truth is what is happening in the Mainland China Poker Scene,

for the large part, remains relatively unknown.

In August 2016, the Somuchpoker team spent two weeks in Beijing to scout out the goings-on in China. We started by attending the first offering of the Asian Poker League (APL) which guaranteed a \$500,000 prize pool. We then visited poker clubs and conducted several interviews to get a feel of the backdrop of the poker scene in the People’s Republic.



APL Beijing (August 2016)

Here's an overview of what has already transpired in the recent history of Poker in China:

The Beginnings of Texas Hold'em in China

Somewhere in the 90s, especially in expat populated cities like Beijing and Shanghai, Hold'em was being introduced by foreigners in home games. With the background of Tractor Poker, it was easy for the Chinese, especially the western educated ones, to fall in love with the game. And as such, the game started gaining ground, and casual home games became a little bit more organized.

Organizers started renting apartments and hiring dealers to run games. Typical games were

played with limits of US\$1/\$2 and US\$2/\$5 with a 5% rake and no cap. These games normally went on non-stop 24 /7.

This was going on without any issue with the Police force for 2 reasons:

1.) At this time when Mainland China was still starting to lower its walls to the rest of the world, the government, who was still trying to build rapport with the international community, avoided any encounters that may create animosity and did not interfere with the activities of the expats living in the country;

2.) The game of Texas Hold'em was relatively unknown and was only being played by a very small population.



Beijing Poker Club

Eventually, however, locals became exposed to Texas Hold'em by joining these organized home games. Moreover, the growing number of Chinese people travelling and studying abroad bolstered exposure to the game creating a backdrop that made Hold'em grow in popularity FAST.



Beijing Poker Club

The Onset of Poker Rooms in China

As a result, between the years 2008 and 2009, Hold'em Star Club, the very first Texas Hold'em poker room, opened its doors in Beijing. After their launch, however, numerous other poker rooms and clubs followed suit and started business in Beijing and Shanghai.

As gambling was illegal in the mainland, operators could not “officially” offer cash games to its clientele. Instead, they held authorized tournaments with an entry fee to join. In place of a cash prize, players were competing to win prizes that were easily convertible to cash – some were Apple products like iPads and iPhones, or travel vouchers, etc. But it didn't take that long for poker to take root in the country, and soon enough rooms were starting to enjoy an influx of customers, which could reach up to 300 patrons per night in the most popular clubs.

With this amount of clients, the demand for cash prizes was getting more intense especially since consistent winners and regular buyers did not need 4-5 similar Apple Products or travel vouchers. So the operators smartened up and started to offer, directly or indirectly, more and more ways for winners to convert their prizes into the cold hard cash that they wanted.

The clamor for ring games also forced operators to be innovative in their offerings. To address the itch for cash games, the rooms offered games similar to Sit N' Gos, wherein players wait for a 9-seat table to be filled before starting a game. Identical to a Sit N' Go, the game was structured where it had levels with the blinds increasing. The difference was that after the game started, anyone could stand up at any time to turn their chips in for prizes – they didn't have to eliminate each other or wait for the last man standing.

As time passed, the games were getting more creative so that it could have a semblance of what the rest of the poker world was enjoying.

And in order for the operators to meet the demands of the growing market of Texas Hold'em players, they had to find every loophole not to be considered gambling, pushing the borders of the law to continue operating.

Some venues took greater risks by offering actual ring games in private rooms to their most trusted regulars. But by doing so, they were clearly breaking the law.

China's New President Xi Jinping & The war against gambling

At the end of 2012, Xi Jinping's access to power and his strong stand against gambling didn't come as good news to the Chinese poker scene.

Despite this, at about 2013, Goldfish Club, a member's only club, was brazen enough to offer live Cash Games in the nightlife district of Beijing. Everyone knew that

they were running cash games. The club barely hid this fact and allowed players to blatantly display piles of money on the gaming table. People were speculating as to how long the audacious poker room could last before the authorities shut them down. And sure enough by 2014, the police raided the club as well as the majority of poker rooms operating in Beijing.

After the city-wide raid, some poker rooms have moved farther from the metropolis and have relocated to some province where authorities are more willing to look the other way with regards to the inner workings of venues. As such, the biggest poker rooms in Mainland China can currently be found in Changsha, the capital of Hunan province. The amount of poker rooms in Changsha is becoming so numerous that it has now earned itself a nickname of "Little Macau".

In Beijing, several poker rooms continue to operate, but they make certain that operations remain legal by having constant communication with local authorities.

Live Tournaments in China

With the popularity of poker increasing, it was but natural for poker clubs to progress as well. And with this progress came an organic rivalry amongst competing clubs who upped each other by creating bigger events with huge guarantees. This One-upmanship strategically pushed them to partner with foreign operators who were looking for a way to penetrate the Chinese Market.

In 2014, Pokerstars' the Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) held an event in a major city in the mainland for the first time. Hosted by Beijing Star Poker Club and sponsored by the APPT, the 2014 Beijing Millions happened and was recorded to be a huge success and a ground breaking event for Chinese players because of its massive participation of 2,732 players, all of whom were hoping to win the coveted ¥675,000 (approx. \$109,382) first prize.

Despite this earlier success, however, their 2nd poker tournament offering became a debacle of nationwide proportions.



APPT Nanjing Millions raided by Chinese police

Nanjing Millions Tragedy

In April 2015, Chinese police shut down Pokerstars' 2015 APPT Nanjing Millions. In cooperation with Star Poker Club, the Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) sponsored the 2015 APPT Nanjing Millions which was held at the Jiangsu Wutaishan Sports Centre in Nanjing. The tournament had already garnered over 2,300 entries in the first 4 starting days but sometime during the 4th day, the Chinese National Police stopped the event on the ground that there was gambling in the premises. Speculation that went around media was that the cause of the problem may have been the unlimited rebuys which was considered a form of gambling. Rumor had it that apart from the unlimited rebuys, opportunists took advantage of the colossal turnout and rented apartments to hold unauthorized cash games which led to the police being told of the event.

News of the incident was shown on Chinese National News and spread throughout the poker community all over the world like wildfire.

The World Poker Tour and Sanya

The World Poker Tour chose to take a different route with regards to events in the People's Republic of China: they limited their live offerings to the Island of Sanya.

As Sanya is a tourist destination, local officials consider poker tournaments as a good way of attracting travelers into the tropical paradise. Events in the island also do not attract the ire of the Chinese central government as it follows the rule of "No Cash Games". Moreover, event organizers make certain that the number of participants is under control and the prize pool reaches only to a certain limit.

In 2012, the World Poker Tour (WPT) started its offering in China by hosting an event at the MGM Grand Sanya Resort. The tournament saw a field of more than 500 players from all over the world.



WPT National China 2015

After this initial success, attendance of the WPT has been growing every year. So as not to cross Chinese authorities, organizers have decided to put a cap on the total number of participants to 888 players in order to control the totals in the event. As the WPT has been

acquired by Ourgame, a Chinese corporation listed in the Hong Kong Stock market, any problem during this event could negatively affect the value of the firm so they have to make sure that all controls are in place.

In the same year, the China Poker Games or CPG also started holding tournaments in Sanya. With an uncapped attendance, the festival became the biggest poker affair for enthusiasts. The 2016 edition took place on the last week of August and saw 1,294 players enter the Main Event.

At the moment, the largest tournaments in China are held in Sanya as the location is considered "safer" by the event organizers than any major city in the country.

Asia Poker League

Despite this perception, Mainland China has still seen great events taking place in the country – such as the 2016 Asian Poker League (APL) tournament, hosted by the Beijing Poker Club in Beijing with a guaranteed prize pool of \$500,000.

With this trend progressing, Mainland China is bound to see even greater events.

Online Poker Booming In China

Gambling is gambling and whether live or online, it is illegal in China. But due to the enormity of the population of China, offshore online poker operators are trying their luck getting a foothold in the developing poker community in the PRC despite stringent gambling laws.

Although not permitted by the Chinese authorities, big names like PokerStars and 888Poker discreetly accept Chinese poker players in their platforms, as evidenced in the number of Chinese players than can be spotted on the tables of these online clients.

In October 2014, the Guardian published a long article showing how Bet365, a UK-based company, has

been more proactive in addressing the gambling needs of the Chinese community by constantly changing its IP address in the hopes of avoiding an encounter with Chinese authorities. To them, the gain is worth far more than the risk. They have even hired numerous Chinese speaking staff to attend to the players in the country.

For obvious legal reasons, these strategies cannot be the foundation of sustainable growth of poker in China. Offshore operators can risk recruiting players, but due to the growing obstacles stipulated by Beijing, they will never be able to promote the game in mass media to the mainstream. There are alternatives that seem to bring a refreshing perspective as to how poker can thrive in such a legally harsh environment.

One of the options is playing poker as a social game which is similar to what Zynga offers – where no real money transactions are made and games are played purely for the fun of it.

Unfortunately, playing only for fun does not satisfy the needs of more serious players. For this reason Chinese Internet giants have developed a canny model where players can play with no real money transactions but still get the monetary rewards they desire.



Online Poker – Poker Monster

Ourgame, owners of the WPT brand and providers of card and board games, has designed Poker Monster in a way where players play with “gold” credits that can be converted to prizes with monetary value or Tickets for Live events like the WPT Sanya. The platform has experienced outstanding success on all game limits and has had hundreds of players qualify for the WPT Chinese Edition.

On the other hand, the internet giant Tencent, who owns Wechat and other internet applications, is also pushing its own poker product, called “Tencent Poker”, on Chinese social media. Being one of the top 10 public corporations in the world, its involvement in the Chinese poker scene can only mean a certainty in the game's growth in China.

In the end, the saying “When there's a will, there's a way” probably holds most true for the poker community in the People's Republic of China because despite all the challenges, all the difficulties, all the legislation the poker community faces, somehow they find a way to be able to play a game that they truly love. With recent history and statistics evidenced in the participation and prize pools of tournaments as well as the spawning of new online opportunities to play poker, the statement “Poker is booming in China” may soon shift from just a topic of conversation into an economic fact that the rest of the gambling world will have to deal with and enjoy.



Beijing in 2016

POKER AT BEIJING POKER CLUB

Beijing Poker Club (BPC), which was established in 2012, is the longest running and the only legal poker room in Mainland China.

Located in the Entertainment Center Stadium at west road, BPC is strategically surrounded by clubs and entertainment hubs giving patrons a variety of options to enjoy themselves. As gambling is illegal in China, the BPC only offers tournaments with Multi-Table tournament (MTT) formats and Sit n' Gos (SNG). Having 2,000 square meter property, the BPC can easily accommodate more than 400 players.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 8 Gong Ti Xi Lu, Chao Yang District, Beijing, China

CONTACT NUMBER: +86 10 65518850/
65521986

PLAYING POKER AT BEIJING POKER CLUB

	Toumament	Time	Buy-in	Starting Blinds	Money Circle	Reward
Monday						
1#	Daily Turbo	15:00	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
2#	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
Tuesday						
4#	DeepStack	15:00	300	50/100 Re-buy/NOAddon	10%	Ticket+game point
	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
Wednesday						
5#	Daily Turbo	15:00	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
6#	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
Thursday						
7#	Daily Turbo	15:00	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
8#	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
Friday						
10#	Daily Turbo	15:00	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
Saturday						
11#	Weekly Match	15:00	1100	25/50 Re-entry	10%	Ticket+game point
12#	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
Sunday						
13#	Daily Turbo	15:00	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point
14#	Daily Turbo	18:45	200	25/50 Re-buy/Addon	10%	Ticket+game point



POKER IN KOREA

Capital:	Seoul
Languages:	Korean
Population:	54,482,816
Currency:	Korean Won (KRW)
Calling code:	+82
Time zone:	UTC+09:00

Gambling has been available to foreign nationals in Korea for almost 50 years, and during this time a number of casinos have established themselves.

Incheon Olympus Hotel Casino was the first, and in the year 2000, Kangwon Land Casino opened too, marking a change in policy. Expatriates and natives of Korea were allowed to gamble in this casino when it opened.

There are a relatively small number of casinos in Korea, most of which are part of hotel complexes that cater to tourists. In the coming years however, large super-casinos are due to open for business.

The Location

Almost half of the casinos in Korea are situated on the island of Jeju, which has the advantage of a beautiful scenery – Waterfalls,



Volcanoes and perfect beaches can all be found here. Two main cities are the focal point for gambling – There is a city at either end of the island, namely Jeju, and Seogwipo, with casinos found in each.

Kangwon Land Casino is way ahead of the competition

As the casino is open to both locals and foreign customers, it is unsurprising that Kangwon Land Casino posts the biggest revenue of any casino in Korea. In 2016 Kangwon Land entered in the Forbes 2000 list of the world's biggest public companies.



Casinos with poker:



Poker King Club in Maison Glad Hotel Jeju



Seven Luck Casino Seoul



Paradise Casino, Walkerhill Seoul



POKER AT POKER KING CLUB IN MAISON GLAD HOTEL JEJU

Poker King Club Jeju is located at the Paradise Grand Casino in Maison Glad Hotel Jeju. The poker room is managed by Poker King Club, in partnership with J&P Entertainment, and features five cash game tables that offer NLHE and PLO games, with levels ranging from 2,000/5,000 KRW to 20,000/40,000 KRW.

Wi-Fi is available in all public areas of the hotel, including the casino, and smoking is allowed on the casino floor (may change to a smoking room from August 2016)

PLAYING POKER AT POKER KING CLUB JEJU

Available Games: No Limit Hold'em and Pot Limit Omaha
(Buy-ins In KRW)

2,000/5,000 - 5% cap 20,000 - min 300,000 / max 2,000,000

5,000/10,000 - 5% cap 30,000 - min 500,000 / max 3,000,000

10,000 / 20,000 - 5% cap 40,000 - min 1,000,000 / no max

20,000 / 40,000 - 5% cap 50,000 - min 2,000,000 / no max

For higher games, there is 5% cap 50,000 for rake. The minimum buy-in is 50BB or 100BB depending on the agreement.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 263-15, Yeon-dong, Jeju-si, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Korea

CONTACT NUMBER: +82 10-9647- 8866



**IS OUR GUIDE
MISSING AN IMPORTANT
INFORMATION?**

Help us to improve it by sharing with our community what you know about poker in Asia: contact@somuchpoker.com

POKER AT SEVEN LUCK CASINO SEOUL

The Seven Luck Casino is one of the best known casinos in Seoul, with the lounge and 5 restaurants inside offering Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Western cuisines. There is the casino floor itself, on which there are 82 tables games and 121 gaming machines. The casino is not normally heavily populated by players, but then that's to be expected when you consider that locals cannot enter.

The casino is certainly not difficult to miss, as it is lit up by a neon sign, but it can be confused with a casino of the same name in a different part of town. If it's poker that you're looking for, head for the one south of the Han river, in eastern Gangnam. You will not find dozens of tables full of players, but poker is offered, and games do run daily. It is best to call the casino beforehand to have your name listed for a game which would normally start in the early evening. Food and beverages are free to playing customers.

This is relatively small compared to other casinos, but staff are friendly and professional.

PLAYING POKER AT SEVEN LUCK CASINO

If you are happy to gamble, you should find plenty of variety here, with Roulette, Dice, Blackjack, Baccarat, and many other games. If your sole purpose is to play poker, then you will find Holdem cash game tables with stakes at the KRW equivalent of \$1/\$2, \$2/\$5, \$5/\$10, \$10/\$20. Rake is set at 10% in the Seven Luck, and is applied up to an amount of \$15. There is also a \$1 rake charge towards the bad beat jackpot. The \$2/\$5 table is the one that runs regularly from around 5pm to 5am, while the other tables only rarely see seats filled. Be sure to register early for the \$2/\$5 table is the one however, as it is popular.



PRACTICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 58 Teheran-ro 87-gil, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, South Korea

CONTACT NUMBER: +82 2-3466-6000



ACCESS

The subway is undoubtedly the most efficient and cost effective way of getting around, even if it is not the most comfortable. You shouldn't be too concerned about the possibility of not being able to read Korean characters in the subway as there are English translations added to the signs. You must of course be old enough to enter the casino, and must be a foreign passport holder. There are no exceptions to this rule.

POKER AT PARADISE CASINO, WALKERHILL SEOUL

The Paradise Casino, Walkerhill is also known as the Walkerhill Casino, and is one of only two places in Seoul that poker enthusiasts can find their game of choice. It must be noted that only tourists can enter the casino, and Korean nationals will be turned away.

The venue is part of the Sheraton Grande Hotel complex, and has shopping facilities, a health spa, and 8 restaurants to choose from. Visitors are left in no doubt that this is one of the very best casinos in Seoul, with multiple relaxation and gambling options available. On the whole, the casino is more popular than some of its rivals, and has a steady stream of players moving around the casino and being seated to play. The casino has 79 gaming tables, 160 slot machines and a separate VIP room.

Poker is available in Walkerhill and offers free food and beverage to its playing patrons. The room offers cash games as well as weekly tournaments and has hosted the Asian Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) Seoul leg.

PLAYING POKER AT PARADISE CASINO, WALKERHILL

Holdem is offered at the Walkerhill, with rake set at 10% up to an amount of \$15. There is a \$2 bad beat jackpot contribution required too. All stakes are in KRW, but by far the most popular tables fall into the region of \$1/\$2 with three or four tables running at peak times. Buy in amounts have a minimum and maximum cap of \$100 and \$1,000 respectively. Free food and beverages are offered to active players. Many other table games and slots are available to players, but most of the patrons seem attracted to the poker tables.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 21, Gwangjang-dong, Gwangjin-gu, Seoul, South Korea

CONTACT NUMBER: +82 2-456-2121



ACCESS

Walkerhill Casino can be found at 177 Walkerhill-ro Gwangjin-gu, Seoul. The casino will arrange to transport players to the casino on certain days, but a cab ride will only cost around \$40. The subway offers another agreeable option, with shuttles carrying players from the nearest stop to the casino doors. It is only around a mile in distance, so you could of course walk the rest of the journey if you wanted to take in some more of the city.



POKER IN MACAU

Capital:	Macau
Languages:	Chinese Portuguese
Population:	640,700
Currency:	Macanese pataca (MOP)
Calling code:	+853

Macau, so often called the “Las Vegas of the East” is a “special administration region (SAR) of China” following the “one country, two systems policy.”

This policy started in 1999 when Portugal, who had ruled over Macau for 300 years, relinquished its reign over the territory to the Chinese. Since then, Mainland China has taken over sovereignty of this extremely profitable

region which heavily relies on tourism.

Since 1962, Stanley Ho’s Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau (STDM) has had monopoly over all gambling operations in Macau. But that changed in 2002, when the monopoly ended and the government opened its doors to let international casino operators come in.

Casinos with poker:



Poker King Club in Venetian
© Macao



Macau Billionaire Poker



Pavilion Poker Galaxy Macau



PokerStars LIVE Macau



Wynn Macau

There are currently more than 30 casinos in Macau. With both Asian and Vegas operators now in the region, gambling revenue has surpassed that of Las Vegas.

Since 2014, gambling revenues have suffered as the Vegas of the East tries to move from the traditional junket operations and reliance on VIP players to a more main stream mass market offering. However, 2016 financial reports have indicated that mass market gaming has finally exceeded, albeit marginally, VIP gaming revenues. This has been seen by Macau operators as the beginning of stabilization in their economy.

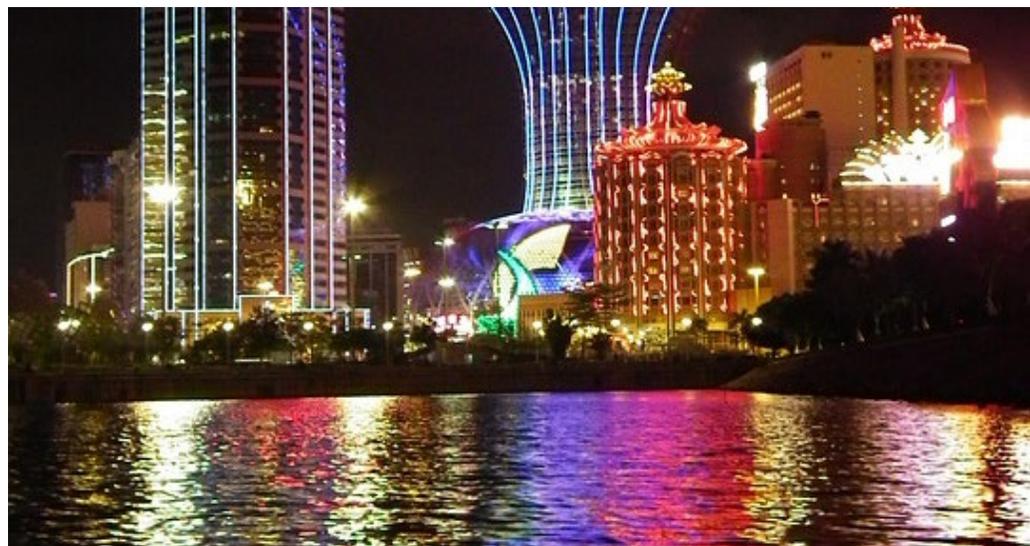
Compared, however, to the number of casinos in Macau, the poker offering is extremely limited. As most casinos have a cap on the amount of gaming tables, which includes poker, operators have opted more profitable games like baccarat, roulette and blackjack over the peer-to-peer game of Texas Holdem. Nevertheless, this



has not stopped PokerStars, who leads the poker pack in the SAR, from opening a room in the City of Dreams. Currently, Pokerstars Live Macau, has been more consistent in their poker offerings as compared to other casinos in the area. They have been providing major tournaments that have made Macau a definite poker destination for players.

Another room that has made its mark is Poker King Club, which is renowned for holding the biggest cash games in the world, having a buy-in minimum of US\$1 million based on reports.

Hopefully, with the move to mass market gaming and new casinos in Cotai, more attention and more tables for poker will be opened in Macau.



POKER AT POKER KING CLUB IN VENETIAN® MACAO

Opened in 2007 by Sheldon Adelson, The Venetian is located on the Cotai Strip, covers 10.5 million square feet, and is one of Macau's major hotspots.

The Poker room is managed by Poker King Club and features eight cash tables, including two for VIPs that offer games of various limits from HKD 25/50 to 1000/2000. The seats feature USB charging ports. All tables are located in a non-smoking area, but a fully-enclosed smoking room is available only meters away.

PLAYING POKER AT POKER KING CLUB MACAU

CASH GAMES

No Limit Hold'em

HKD 25/50 – Min/Max Buy In: 2K-15K

HKD 50/100 – Min/Max Buy In: 30K

HKD 100/200 – Min/Max Buy In: 20K-No Max

HKD 200/400 – Min/Max Buy In: 40K-No Max

HKD 300/600 – Min/Max Buy In: 60K-No Max

HKD 500/1000 – Min/Max Buy In: 100K-No Max

Rake

HKD 25/50 – 5% Cap 250

HKD 50/100 – 5% Cap 300

HKD 100/200 – 5% Cap 500

HKD 200/400 – 5% Cap 500

HKD 300/600 – 5% Cap 500

HKD 500/1000 – 5% Cap 500

Tournaments

No regular tournaments



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS:

Estrada da Baia de Nossa Senhora da Esperanca

CONTACT NUMBER: +853 2882 8888



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POKER**

POKER AT MACAU BILLIONAIRE POKER

Macau Billionaire's Poker room is located on the 2nd Floor of the Babylon Casino at Macau Fisherman's Wharf. The casino is literally steps away from the Macau Ferry Terminal. Being located near the wharf, the poker room is strategically located to provide its players with entertainment from the surrounding restaurants and establishments.

The room itself features five cash game tables including one private room for VIPs. Games run from HKD 20/50 to HKD 10,000/20,000. All tables feature USB charging ports and free Wi-Fi. Texas Holdem Poker and Pot Limit Omaha are both available in the room. MBP is aiming to put the fun back into poker and encouraging action on their tables. Within the VIP room is a resting area where friends and relatives can relax while they wait for the players to finish.

There are regular events held in the room but weekly tournaments are not being offered.

PLAYING POKER AT MACAU BILLIONAIRE

CASH GAMES (HKD)

No Limit Hold'em

Games run from HKD 20/50 to HKD 10,000/20,000.
Rake: 5% with a cap between HKD 200 and HKD 500 depending of the stakes

TOURNAMENTS

Regular events



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Macau Fisherman's Wharf A
Venida Dr.Sun Yat-Sen

CONTACT NUMBER: +853 2872 7898

EMAIL: mbp@mbp.com

WEBSITE: <http://www.mbp.com/>



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PAVILION POKER GALAXY MACAU

Galaxy Macau is one of the grandest hotels in Macau offering more than 2,200 rooms, suites and villas across three World-Class Asian hotels: the award-winning and ultra-exclusive Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts, Japan's legendary Okura Hotels & Resorts, and the highly anticipated 5-star Galaxy Hotel. It has 50 food and beverage establishments within the property, retail shopping, an oasis garden covering 52,000 sq.m. and a Skytop Wave Pool covering 4,000 sq. m. with white sand beach, the best feature of the hotel and the largest wave pool in the world.

Located at the center of the casino gaming floor and launched in September of 2015 is the the poker room which boasts eight tables : six cash tables and two for Sit'n'Gos and tournaments. As for now, only No Limit Hold'Em games are available, but other variants should make their appearance down the road.

The location features six hotels, a Spa, a mall, cinemas and theaters, as well as literally dozens of restaurants, and is accessible with a service of free shuttle buses.

The casino is open 24/7.

PLAYING POKER AT GALAXY MACAU

CASH GAMES

No Limit Hold'em

25/50 HK Dollar blinds, 5% rake, HKD 250 cap

50/100HK and higher games 5% rake, HKD 350 cap



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS:

Avenida de Cotai, Cotai City, Macau

CONTACT NUMBER: (+853) 8883 3333



POKER AT POKERSTARS LIVE MACAU

PokerStars LIVE Macau opened its doors in May 2008. The poker room is currently located at the City of Dreams on the second floor of the casino. PokerStars LIVE Macau offers both cash games and tournaments on a daily basis. PokerStars LIVE Macau offers cash games that accommodate every type of poker player: No-Limit Texas Hold'em is available from stakes of HKD \$25/\$50 and above. Furthermore, the venue is home to the biggest and richest poker tournaments in Asia, including the Macau Poker Cup, the annual PokerStars Championship Macau, and the Asia Championship of Poker (ACOP)

PLAYING POKER AT POKERSTARS LIVE MACAU

CASH GAMES

No Limit Hold'em

HKD 25/50 – Min/Max Buy In: 2K-6K

HKD 50/100 – Min/Max Buy In: 5K-20K

HKD 100/200 – Min/Max Buy In: 20K-100k

HKD 200/400 – Min/Max Buy In: 20K-No Limit

Rake

HKD 25/50 – 5% Cap 200

HKD 50/100 – 5% Cap 200

HKD 100/200 – 5% Cap 200

HKD 200/400 – 5% Cap 200

TOURNAMENTS

PokerStars LIVE Macau hosts big & successful Tournaments as follows:

PokerStars Championship Macau
Asia Championship of Poker (ACOP)
Macau Poker Cup
Macau Millions
ACOP Platinum Series

Apart from those prestigious tournaments, PokerStars LIVE Macau offers daily tournaments with buy-ins ranging from \$250 HKD – \$3000 HKD



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: The poker room is currently located at the City of Dreams, Macau on level 2 of the casino

CONTACT NUMBER: (+853)8868.6698

MINIMUM AGE: 21



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POKA MANIA

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POKER AT WYNN

The Wynn resort, with all its entertainment and wellness opportunities, is designed with the highest standards, equipped with the best technology.

Wynn Macau offers a variety of activities and luxuries that made it one of the best hotels in the world. It has 600 hotel rooms, 5 restaurants, 25,000 sq.ft. of retail space, a heated swimming pool, a spa, a salon, 2 bars and lounges, and multi-purpose convention facilities. The casino boasts 501 table games, 375 slot machines, in a 205,000 sq. ft. gaming area.

The Wynn Poker Room is not only known for having the widest and most consistent spread of games and limits, it is also the place to go for daily high stakes cash games, like NLH HKD500/1000. Apart from cash game action, Wynn Poker Room has daily tournaments at noontime and weekend tournaments.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: R. Cidade de Sintra Macau

CONTACT NUMBER: +853 2888 9966



PLAYING POKER AT WYNN

CASH GAMES

Holdem

HKD 25/50 – Min/Max Buy In: 2K-10K

HKD 50/100 – Min/Max Buy In: 5K-25K

HKD 100/200 – Min/Max Buy In: 20K-No Max

HKD 300/600 – Min/Max Buy In: 50K-No Max

HKD 500/1000 – Min/Max Buy In: 50K-No Max

Larger games run regularly at players request. Min Buy in is set at 100BB.

Omaha

HKD 50/100 – Min/Max Buy In: 8K-25k

HKD 100/200 – Min/Max Buy In: 20K- No Max

Larger games run regularly at players request. Min Buy in is set at 100BB.

Rake

Rake at Wynn Macau is 5% capped at HKD\$200, which is one the lowest rake in Macau. Larger games run regularly at players request. Min Buy in is set at 100BB

TOURNAMENTS

No regular tournaments

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POKER IN PHILIPPINES

Capital:	Manila
Languages:	English, Filipino
Population:	100 million
Currency:	Peso
Calling code:	+63
Time zone:	UTC+08:00

The 100% state-owned PAGCOR is responsible for licensing the nation's gambling operations, and runs 13 casinos across the country, with 50% of the revenues going straight to the National Treasury. PAGCOR's biggest project to date is the Las Vegas-style complex in Bay City, Metro Manila called "The Entertainment City" which occupies 8km² of the Manila Bay area and is home to international resort & casino brands like City

of Dreams Manila, Resorts World Bayshore, Solaire Resort & Casino, and the upcoming Okada Manila & Westside City

Live poker is popular in the country, with over 20 poker rooms offering cash games and live tournaments.

Philippine poker started in early 2006 with 1 poker room located at PAGCOR's Airport Casino. In the

Casinos with poker:



PokerStars Live Manila



Poker King Club in Solaire Resort & Casino



Resort World Manila



Lucky Fish Poker Club



Metro Card Club



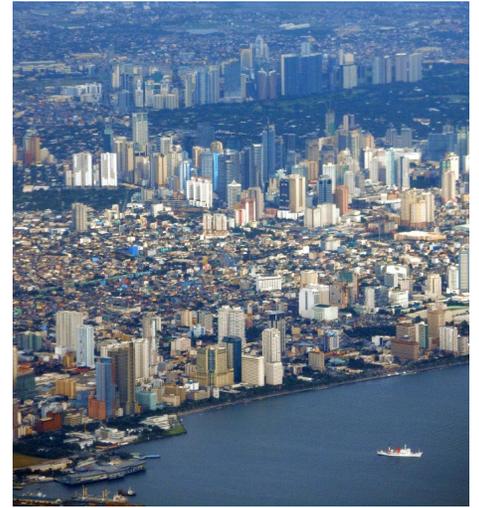
Aces Poker Sports Club Angeles



Masters Poker Room Manila

beginning, it was the only casino offering Texas Holdem Poker. But after The Metro Card Club, the very first mortar & brick poker room in the country, opened, numerous rooms followed suit. Despite the amount of poker rooms in the metropolis alone, real popularity was gained after the launch of the Filipino Poker Tour, a local circuit sponsored by PokerStars. Seeing the reaction and population of poker players in the archipelago, the international brand decided to hold the inaugural tournament of the Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel & Casino in Manila on August 2007. This event placed the Philippines on the global map as a poker destination. The Asian Poker Tour (APT) reinforced this fact in 2008, by extending satellites abroad to APT events in the Philippines.

Since then, the poker community has truly boomed especially with PokerStars & Poker King Club



making Manila its new home. A greater influx of international poker players are coming in to attend prestigious tournaments like the APPT, the Asian Poker Tour (APT) and the World Poker Tour (WPT) National Philippines.

Apart from this new found popularity in the poker scene, the Philippines, through CEZA, is also garnering a reputation as having Asia's most favorable jurisdictions for licensing and regulating iGaming. As such, several online poker sites are operating directly from the Philippines.



POKER AT POKERSTARS LIVE MANILA

PokerStars opened the PokerStars LIVE Manila poker room in December 2014. It is currently located at the 2nd level Casino, City of Dreams Manila—a billion-dollar entertainment and gaming resort located in Parañaque City, Metro Manila, Philippines. The Casino, with its 6 hotel towers attached, features classy hotels like the Hyatt Hotel, the Crown Towers Hotel, and the Nobu Hotel Manila.

PokerStars LIVE Manila consists of 18 tables that offer cash games and daily tournaments. It also hosts events like Manila Megastack as well as the annual Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) which will soon be replaced by PokerStars Festival (PSF) Manila. Satellites for PokerStars LIVE Manila events are also held in the poker room and they accept special poker tournaments for private groups making it one of the favorite poker places in the Metropolis.

Drinks are free for players and the room is open 24/7.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: City of Dreams Manila,
Asean Avenue corner Roxas Boulevard,
Entertainment City, Parañaque 1701, Metro
Manila, Philippines

CONTACT NUMBER: (+63) 2800 8080
**POKERSTARS LIVE MANILA MOBILE
NUMBER/VIBER:** (+63) 915 412 1818

PLAYING POKER AT POKERSTARS LIVE MANILA

CASH GAMES

No Limit Holdem & Pot-Limit Omaha:

PhP 25-50	(Rake 10% – cap 300) – Min./Max.
PhP 50-100	(Rake 10% – cap 400) – Min./Max.
PhP100-200	(Rake 10% – cap 500) – Min./Max.
PhP100-100-200	(Rake 10% – cap 500) – Min./Max.
PhP200-500	(Rake 10% – cap 600) – Min./Max.
PhP100-200-500	(Rake 10% – cap 600) – Min./Max.
PhP500-1000	(Rake 10% – cap 1000) – Min./Max.
PhP200-500-1000	(Rake 10% – cap 1000) – Min./Max.

Buy-in PhP1000 – PhP8000
Buy-in PhP4000 – PhP20000
Buy-in PhP10000 – PhP60000
Buy-in PhP10000 – PhP100000
Buy-in PhP20000 – PhP200000
Buy-in PhP20000 – PhP200000
Buy-in PhP50000 – no max.
Buy-in PhP50000 – no max.

TOURNAMENTS

PokerStars LIVE Manila is home of the Manila Megastack series, the concluded Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) and the much-anticipated PokerStars Festival (PSF) Manila. PokerStars LIVE Manila is also holding daily tournaments. Schedule here: <http://www.pokerstarslivemanila.com/tournaments/weekly/>

POKER AT POKER KING CLUB IN SOLAIRE RESORT & CASINO

On May 9, 2015, the Poker King Club celebrated the grand opening of its new poker room at the Solaire Resort and Casino in Manila. Poker King Club also runs a poker room in Macau inside the Venetian. Poker King Club is renowned for cash games at the highest stakes. The Poker Room offers a wide range of beverages for free, including soft drinks, juice, coffee, and beer. Players can order different kinds of food from the five food outlets inside the Solaire property, including Dragon Bar, Lucky Noodles, Finestra, Strip Steakhouse, and Yakumi.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Aseana Ave Parañaque Metro Manila

CONTACT NUMBER: +63 2 888 8888

HOW TO GO THERE: 5 mins by taxi from Ninoy Aquino International Airport

PLAYING POKER AT POKER KING CLUB MANILA

CASH GAMES

No Limit Holdem & Pot-Limit Omaha:

PhP 50/100	(Rake 10% – min. 50 – cap 400) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP5000 – PhP50000)
PhP 100/200	(Rake 10% – min. 100 – cap 500) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP10000 – PhP100000)
PhP 200/400	(Rake 10% – mn. 100 – cap 600) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP30000 – PhP300000)
PhP 500/1000	(Rake 10% – min. 500 – cap 1000) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP100000 – no max.)
PhP 1000/2000	(Rake 5% – min. 500 -cap 1500) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP200000 – no max.)
PhP 2000/4000	(Rake 5% – min. 1000 – cap 2000) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP400000 – no max.)
PhP 3000/6000	(Rake 5% – min. 1000 – cap 3000) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP600000 – no max.)
PhP 4000/8000	(Rake 5% – min. 1000 – cap 4000) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP800000 – no max.)
PhP 5000/10000	(Rake 5% – min. 1000 – cap 5000) – (Min./Max. Buy-in PhP1000000 – no max.)

TOURNAMENTS

Regular Events

POKER AT RESORT WORLD MANILA

Resorts World Manila (RWM) is an integrated tourist hub located in Newport City, opposite the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 3, in Pasay, Metro Manila. It opened its doors in 2009 and was the only casino in country not operated by PAGCOR until the opening of the Solaire Resort and Casino. The resort combines restaurants, casinos, and entertainment spots, including a 1,500-seat theater and a luxury mall. Resorts World Manila is also home to three hotels: the 5-star Marriot Hotel Manila, the best-value-for-your-money Remington Hotel, and the luxury all-suite casino hotel, Maxims Hotel.

Resorts World Manila has a dedicated poker room and has been home to the Asian Poker Tour (APT) since it opened.

PLAYING POKER AT RESORT WORLD MANILA

Cash Games

On average 8/9 tables are running (maximum 12 tables) with a 5% cap rake

No limit Hold'em:

Php 25/50 – Running everyday

Php 50/100 – Running everyday

Php 100/200 – Running frequently

Pot Limit Omaha:

Php 100/100 or Php 100/200 if requested by players
(average 3 times /week)

Tournaments

Resort World Manila runs satellites before APT events that are hosted in the premises



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Newport Boulevard, Newport City

CONTACT NUMBER: +63 917 872 8190

SHUTTLE SERVICE:

<http://www.rwmanila.com/shuttle-schedule>



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POKER AT LUCKY FISH POKER CLUB

The newest addition to the roster of poker rooms in Manila is the Lucky Fish Poker Club.

Located in Remington Hotel across Resorts World Casino, the club offers more than just a game of poker. The club is designed with 3 floors – the 1st floor is the Singles Bar, the 2nd floor is Japanese actress Maria Ozawa's upscale bar named La Maison, and finally the 3rd floor is the poker room which currently holds only 4 poker tables for high stakes players.

And with all these bars in the area, it is not surprising that the Lucky Fish Poker Club treats its players like VIP with complimentary food and drinks. At times, they may even comp visitors a room.

PLAYING POKER AT LUCKY FISH POKER CLUB

The Lucky Fish Poker Club offers Texas Holdem and PLO games with limits of of PhP100-200-500 and PhP200-500 respectively. Rake is 5% and capped at Php600.

Check the facebook for more information:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/504480993071111/>



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Remington Hotel 2nd Floor,
Resorts World Manila, Pasay City, 1300 Manila,
Philippines

CONTACT NUMBER:
(0915) 696 1225 Juvy Aldave
0917-6326431 Jetboy Pusoy
(0915) 688 4996 Lucky Fish

An advertisement for Poka Mania featuring a shark and fish. The background is a blue underwater scene with a large shark swimming towards the left and several colorful fish swimming around. The text "JOIN THE FASTEST GROWING ASIAN POKER NETWORK" is written in white and yellow. At the bottom, there is a logo for "POKA MANIA" and a yellow button with the text "SMPVIP". To the right of the button, it says "BONUS CODE - EXCLUSIVE RAKEBACK".

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POKA MANIA **SMPVIP**

POKER AT METRO CARD CLUB

The Metro Card Club is the biggest poker room in the Philippines with a 800 sq.m facility , 30 poker tables, a bar and a billiards area. Located at the heart of the Metropolis and open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the room is full of players any time of the night or day.

Metro Card Club has been operating since 2007 and can be considered one of the pioneers in the industry. It boasts being the very first brick & mortar poker room in the country. Catering more to the local poker community, the room fondly called "The Metro" is famous for its value for money, low buy-in tournaments and its micro limit cash game tables. They also hold the claim of being home to the Filipino Poker Tour, which help boost the popularity of the game at its early stages in the country.

Most of the current professional poker players now seen at international circuits started their careers at The Metro. And the club continues to endeavor molding and training future poker players with its weekly tournaments and major tournament season.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Bldg. C Bazaar Area Metrowalk Commercial Complex, Ortigas Center, Pasig, Metro Manila, Philippines

CONTACT NUMBER: +63 2 633 1422

PLAYING POKER AT THE METRO CARD CLUB

CASH GAMES

No Limit Holdem:

PhP 10/20	(Rake 10% – cap PhP200) –	Min./Max. Buy-in PhP200 – PhP2000
PhP 20/40	(Rake 10% – cap to be confirmed) –	Min./Max. Buy-in PhP400 – PhP4000
PhP 25/50	(Rake 10% – cap cap to be confirmed) –	Min./Max. Buy-in PhP1000 – PhP5000
PhP 50/100	(Rake 10% – cap PhP400) –	Min./Max. Buy-in PhP2000 – PhP25000

Pot Limit Omaha:

PhP 100/200 (Rake 10% – cap PhP400) – Min./Max. Buy-in PhP20000 – PhP100000

Traffic:

The games run 24/7 with a minimum of 3 tables open and with mostly locals playing. NL PhP10/20, which can have up to 8 tables running, is the main game. One to three tables of other game limits are also running. PLO games tend to start towards the afternoon and may not always be available

Tournaments

Daily tournamanents

POKER AT WILD ACES POKER SPORTS CLUB ANGELES

Wild Aces Poker is the longest running poker room in the Northern area of the Philippines. They have been around since Texas Holdem Poker arrived in the Philippines.

From a casual home game, they started, at first, by hosting charity tournaments for the local chapter of the Jaycees organization.

Now a licensed poker room, it is located in Angeles City Pampanga, a city popular for being the former home of the US Military Base. With that background and being only a 30-minute drive away from the Clark International Airport, a lot of foreign poker players can be seen at the tables of Wild Aces Poker.

Despite the international clientele, most of the games remain at micro limits to give a chance for locals to play.

Only 3 hours away from Manila, a lot of the players from the metropolis travel to Pampanga just to partake of the "wild" action that can only be provided by international players.

PLAYING POKER AT WILD ACES SPORT CLUB ANGELES

Holdem

Buy-in (PHP)		Limits (PHP)	
Min	Max	Small	Big
1,000.00	10,000.00	25	25
2,000.00	20,000.00	25	50
10,000.00	100,000.00	50	100

Omaha upon demand

Tournament schedule

Check www.wildacespoker.com/tourney.html



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: Corner A. Santos & Vian St.
Balibago, Angeles City, Philippines

CONTACT NUMBER: +63 (045) 322.6311

MOBILE : +63.917.510.6311

EMAIL: info@wildacespoker.com

WEBSITE: www.wildacespoker.com



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contact@somuchpoker.com

The advertisement features a stylized illustration of Uncle Sam, the iconic symbol of the United States, wearing his top hat and pointing directly at the viewer. Below the illustration, the text reads "ADVERTISE WITH US" in large, bold, black letters, followed by "#1 POKER MEDIA IN ASIA" in red, and the contact email "contact@somuchpoker.com" in black.

POKER AT MASTERS POKER ROOM MANILA

Masters Poker is one of the pioneer poker rooms in Metro Manila.

They have been around since 2007 and once dominated the scene in the capital city.

It is located at the heart of Manila's nightlife district in Remedios Circle making it the perfect place for those who would like to party or have some drinks before or after a game of poker.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 1851 J. Bocobo St. Remedios Circle
Manila City

TELEPHONE : +63 (2) 353 0258 / 0

MOBILE : +63. 905 295 6415

EMAIL: masterspoker@yahoo.com

OTHER INFO: www.facebook.com/MastersPoker

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**POKA
MANIA**

SMPVIP



POKER IN SINGAPORE

Capital:	Singapore
Languages:	English, Malay, Mandarin, Tamil
Population:	5.5 million
Currency:	Singapore dollar
Calling code:	+65
Time zone:	UTC+08:00

According to a British gambling consultancy, Singaporeans are the 2nd biggest gamblers in the whole world and this is despite very strict laws against gambling in the country.

It was only in 2004, that the government decided to allow 2 integrated casino resorts to be built in the country – namely, Marina Bay Sands & Resorts World Sentosa. In 2006 the

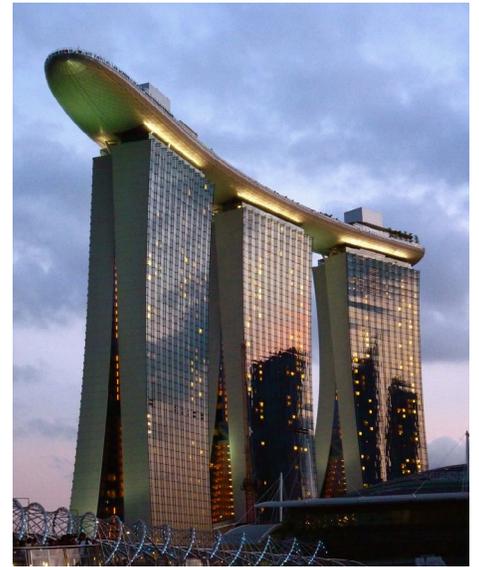
Casino Control Act was enacted to legalize the operations of the said casinos. However, in spite of this legalization certain conditions applied. The Act specified that only these 2 casinos may operate and only with the full offering of a “resort” to compliment the Hotel & Casino. Another condition was that foreigners were free to enter the casino but local players were required to pay 100SGD.



Of these 2 casinos, only Resorts World Sentosa has a poker offering. Poker limits start with SG\$10-SG\$20, and with those limits plus the required casino entry fee, the local poker community are discouraged to play the game in a legal setting.

This had forced them to conduct home games at a great risk. Anyone caught having home games could be fined SG\$1000 for playing and SG\$20,000 for hosting or be jailed for 2 months. Having this great risk, Singaporeans turned to online poker to get their fix.

But in February 2015, the Remote Gambling Act of 2014 was enacted banning all online gambling including online poker sites. The fine for playing online was stipulated at SG\$5,000 and/or imprisonment of up to 6 months. For operators, the



Act made it more stringent – operators caught accepting Singaporean players in their site would have a penalty of not less than SG\$20,000 and not more than SG\$500,000 and/or imprisonment not exceeding 7 years.

Being placed in a corner, Singaporeans have no choice but to take the risk of a home game.

Casinos with poker:



Resort World Sentosa



POKER AT RESORT WORLD SENTOSA

Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), is located on Singapore's resort island of Sentosa. Spanning 49 hectares, the resort opened in January 2010 and welcomed over 45 million visitors in its first three years of opening.

RWS is home to two mega attractions – the region's first-and-only Universal Studios theme park and the Marine Life Park, which comprises the S.E.A. Aquarium (one of the world's largest aquariums) and Adventure Cove Waterpark. Other attractions include a Maritime Experiential Museum, an award-winning destination spa, six unique hotels, the Resorts World Convention Centre, celebrity chef restaurants, and specialty retail outlets.

The casino, a 15,000 sq.m facility, is offering most of the existing casino games including poker. Locals are required an entry fee of SG\$100 to enter the casino.

Resorts World Sentosa is the only place in Singapore where one can find a game of poker. The poker room is in a designated area where drinks are available for free. There are 7 poker tables with starting blinds at SG\$10/SG\$20 a 5% rake capped at SG\$50.

PLAYING POKER AT RESORT WORLD SENTOSA

CASH GAMES

No limit Holdem:

Tables: 2 / 4 tables

Stakes: SG\$ 10/20

TOURNAMENTS

No tournament



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 8 Sentosa Gateway,
Sentosa Island

CONTACT NUMBER: +65 6577 8888

HOW TO GO THERE: By train : Take North-East line or Circle line to HarbourFront station



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POKER IN SRI LANKA

Capital:	Colombo
Languages:	English, Sinhalese, Tamil
Population:	20,28 million
Currency:	Sri Lankan Rupee (LKR)
Calling code:	+94

Gambling in Sri Lanka had always been around but regulation over it only started in 2010 with President Mahindra Rajapaksa who thought that licensing casinos would bring good revenue to the country. A casino bill was then passed to give licenses to a handful of small casinos.

After the civil war ended in 2009, numerous foreigners, especially those coming from China, have

been coming to the Pearl of the Indian Ocean for sightseeing and tourism.

Seeing an opportunity, Rajapaksa decided to give 4 of the existing licenses to bigger casinos on the condition that the smaller casinos close the moment the bigger brands open. He was hoping that the establishment of bigger international casino brands would



bring in greater tourist revenues. Included in these 4 were Crown Resorts, Sands Casino, MGM Resorts and Caesars Entertainment. But this decision was met by resistance from the Buddhist clergy and some politicians. Concessions, which came in the form of raising gaming fees and increasing taxes, were made to appease the opposition. And to discourage locals from developing a vice, Sri Lankans have to pay \$100 to enter a casino.

All this ended in 2014 when Maithripala Sirisena, who has strong support from the Buddhist clergy, won the elections. Sirisena has pledged to stop the transfer of these 4 licenses to the bigger brands. As of 2015, it had been reported that 3 of the projects had already been blocked from operating in the island country.



As for poker, two casinos offer poker games, namely, Bally's Casino and Casino Marina, both located in Colombo. Regarding online poker, Sri Lankans are free to play on offshore sites as there is hardly any regulation regarding this matter. This is mainly because internet access in Sri Lanka is scarce and serves as a natural hindrance to playing online. But this may change as more people get access to the internet.

Casinos with poker:



Bally's Poker Colombo



Jim's Poker Room –
Marina Colombo Casino



BALLY'S POKER COLOMBO

Bally's Casino, which opened in 1996, is located in the heart of Colombo, Sri Lanka and is the largest in the area. The casino is close to the main train station and is only a 1-hour drive away from the international airport. Although it has the same name as the Las Vegas casino, Bally's Casino Colombo has no connection to its American counterpart. Offering 7 tables games – 3 Card Poker, Asian Poker, Baccarat, Black Jack, Mini Flush, Roulette, Texas Holdem – the casino has a total of 60 gaming tables. Apart from the casino, Bally's Casino Colombo offers a total of 6 bars and restaurants, a world-class hotel and a luxurious spa. Food & Drinks are free at the casino for those who play. The entertainment every evening has been reviewed to be one of the best Bollywood entertainments in the area.

Bally's Casino is one of 2 casinos that offer Texas Holdem poker and has 3 tables dedicated to it. The poker room is on the ground floor of the casino, between the slot machines and baccarat tables. 3 tables are fully dedicated to poker. No Limit Hold'Em games are the only games on offer. Casino is open 24/7.

PLAYING POKER AT BALLY'S POKER COLOMBO

CASH GAMES

Minimum Buy In: 50.000 LKR (around 340 USD)
500/1000 LKR blinds (around 3.4 / 6.8 USD)
5% rake, no cap

TOURNAMENTS

No tournament



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: No 34, D.R. Wijewardana
Mawatha, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka

CONTACT NUMBER:

(+94) 115556555 / (+94) 112331151

EMAIL: info@ballyscolombo.com

WEBSITE: <https://www.ballyscolombo.com>



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An advertisement for PokaMania featuring a shark and fish. The background is a blue underwater scene with a large shark swimming towards the left and several colorful fish swimming around. The text is white and yellow, and the PokaMania logo is in the bottom left corner. A yellow button with the text 'SMPVIP' is in the bottom right corner.

JIM'S POKER ROOM - MARINA COLOMBO CASINO

Jim's Poker, the very first poker room in Sri Lanka, is located in the newest casino in Colombo, the Casino Marina Colombo. It is open 24/7 offering Texas Holdem and Omaha games. The poker room offers Texas Holdem and has 2 tables dedicated to it. Games normally start at about 8-9pm but players are required to play a minimum of 2 hours with a 30 minute notice when players intend to leave. Buy-in minimum is at 50,000 rupees while blinds start at 500-1000.

The home of Jim's Poker, Casino Marina Colombo, which opened in 2013, offers amenities that make poker in Jim's Poker holistic. It has 90 gaming tables offering Baccarat, Blackjack, Roulette, Omaha, and Texas Hold 'Em poker. Casino Marina Colombo also has a hotel that accommodates visiting guests from other countries. It has 4 floors dedicated to different kinds of players and it has been said that Casino Marina Colombo has elevated the standard of casinos in the area.

PLAYING POKER AT JIM'S POKER ROOM - MARINA COLOMBO CASINO

CASH GAMES

Minimum Buy In: 50.000 LKR (around 340 USD)
500/1000 LKR blinds (around 3.4 / 6.8 USD)
5% rake, no cap

TOURNAMENTS

Occasional Events



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS:

No-30, Marine Drive 00003 Colombo

CONTACT NUMBER: +94 71 096 1394

EMAIL: jim@marinacolombo.com

WEBSITE: <http://www.jimspokerroom.com/>



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POKER IN THAILAND

Capital:	Bangkok
Languages:	Thai
Population:	69 Million
Currency:	Baht
Calling code:	+66
Time zone:	UTC+07:00

Over the past few years, Thailand has become the top spot in Asia for professional online poker players to spend their time in, especially during the European/US winter. The infrastructure is one of the best in South East Asia; the food is great; and there are tons of places to enjoy life – like at the beach

playing poker online. The quality of the internet has improved a lot and is now close to western standards.

Although gambling is illegal in Thailand, there hasn't been a case yet where a poker player has had a problem playing online. However, making deposits with a Thai-IP



address is restricted. The bigger problem is that casinos are illegal in the country. Besides a couple of – obviously illegal – poker home games in Bangkok, Koh Samui, Phuket, and Pattaya, there are only a couple of casinos at the borders of Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar with Thailand, where gambling is allowed.



**No casino –
no legal offer.**

**Well established
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POKER IN VIETNAM

Capital:	Hanoi
Languages:	Vietnamese
Population:	90 million
Currency:	Vietnam Dong
Calling code:	+84
Time zone:	UTC+07:00

In a country where gaming is only allowed to foreign passport holders, the game of poker, which has only been popular in Vietnam recently, has had an uphill climb to finding its niche in the market. However, the strong passion for the mind sport seems to be what's keeping the game from totally disappearing from Vietnamese shores.

Gaming had always been in the bloodstream of the Vietnamese

but the love for poker started with the "Việt Kiều", Vietnamese who fled the country after the fall of Saigon in the 70s. A lot of the "Việt Kiều" settled in the West Coast of the US and got exposed to game. It was love at first sight and this love had resulted in some of the best players of poker in the world like Scotty Nguyen, Men "The Master" Nguyen, J.C. Tran, and Nam Le just to name a few.



Casinos with poker:



Poker at Hanoi Hotel



Aces Poker Hanoi

After the Doi Moi, which were economic reforms made during the 80s, some of these poker playing Việt Kiều returned home and brought their knowledge of the game with them. But with Gambling laws still being stringent on the locals, only 2 casinos offered the game of poker, and only with electronic tables which took out the social and psychological strategy of the game.



A breakthrough happened when The Grand Ho Tram Strip, in co-operation with the **World Gaming Group (WGG)**, opened a poker room which offered cash games with starting limits of \$1/\$2. Local poker players became more hopeful when, in May 2015, the **Asian Poker Tour (APT)** brought their brand to the country and held a tournament for both locals and foreigners. For the first time, the community enjoyed and played in an international poker circuit. But all hopes for a budding poker scene were dashed when **The Grand Ho Tram Strip** ended their agreement with WGG resulting in the cancellation of the 2nd APT Vietnam supposed to be held on November

2015. To make matters worse, New World Hotel had stopped its electronic poker tables making poker almost non-existent in the country.

That is until July 2016 when **Aces Poker Club**, the very first brick & mortar poker room, in the country opened its doors. Like a breath of fresh air, the Vietnamese poker community had once again been revived.

This time, their future seems brighter and with the recent news of Poker King Club announcing its imminent arrival to the beaches of Vietnam, poker players have something to look forward to in this part of the peninsula.



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POKER AT HANOI HOTEL

Hanoi Hotel is centrally located in the heart of Hanoi, conveniently near various government agencies, embassies, the diplomatic quarter and the International Exhibition Centre. Hanoi Hotel is 30 kilometres from Hanoi Noi Bai International Airport and 3 kilometres from the Hanoi Railway Station. Overlooking the Giang Vo Lake, the hotel's 218 deluxe rooms and suites gives a scenic view of the lake's serene waters. Apart from its rooms, the hotel has amenities which include 4 restaurants and bars that offer Vietnamese and Cantonese cuisine, a business center with meeting rooms, a night-club, sauna and fitness area, and a casino called The Winner Club Slot Centre.

The Winners Club Slot Centre casino is one of Vietnam's few electronic gaming venues and is open 24/7. It offers 50 slot machines, blackjack, baccarat, roulette games, and poker on one electronic table.

PLAYING POKER AT HANOI HOTEL

CASH GAMES

No limit Holdem:

Tables: 1 electronic table

Stakes: 1/2 usd

Rake: 2% no cap

Min Buy In 100 usd / **Max Buy In** 1000 usd

TOURNAMENTS

No tournament



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: D8 Giang Vo St., Ba Dinh District
Hanoi – Vietnam.

CONTACT NUMBER: +84 43 845 2270

HOW TO GO THERE: 30 minutes from airport
by taxi (\$15-\$20)



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POKA MANIA **SMPVIP**

The advertisement features a vibrant underwater scene with a large shark swimming towards the left, surrounded by various colorful fish and coral. The text is overlaid on this scene, with the PokaMania logo and a yellow button with the code SMPVIP.

ACES POKER HANOI

Aces Poker is the very first brick & mortar poker room in Hanoi, Vietnam. In a country where gaming is limited to foreigners or Vietnamese with foreign passports, Aces Poker seems to be paving the way for poker to be considered a skill game or a mind sport. As ring games are not allowed to locals, Aces Poker conceptualized an innovative way to provide the Vietnamese community with a way to have their poker fix. With no cash game rake which other rooms rely on, Aces Poker instead offers membership to those who would like to avail of the tournament offerings of the sports club. Organizers hold 3 tournaments daily, 70% of the entry fees of which go to the prize pool and the rest to the club.

Aces Poker is licensed under the Poker & Bridge Federation.

Update 14/09/16: Foreign passport holders are no longer allowed to play at Aces Poker.

PLAYING POKER AT ACES POKER HANOI

For legal reasons, Cash Games are not allowed. Tournaments are the only format on offer. Players need to be a member to access the activities of the club. Only locals are accepted. Membership rates: One month – 500k Vnd , 3 months – 1.2M Vnd , 6 months – 2M Vnd and 12 months – 3.6M Vnd. The current daily schedule is : 2pm – 3M Vnd buy in , 6 pm – 2M Vnd , 8pm – 1M Vnd.

TOURNAMENTS

- » **Three formats are on offer:** Deepstack, Turbo and Normal. Two re-entries are allowed.
- » **Rake:** 70% of the entry fees collected go into the prize pool, with the rest going towards rake.
- » **Turnout:** Each tournament has so far attracted between 30 and 60 people.



PRATICAL INFO

ADDRESS: 1 Tầng Bạt Hồ, quận Hai Bà Trưng, Hanoi, Vietnam 10000

WEBSITE: <http://acespoker.vn/>

OPENING HOURS: Mon-Sat: 13:00 – 22:00
Sun: 09:00 – 22:00

