

PRESS RELEASE
February 2013



EMPERORS PALACE

THE PALACE OF DREAMS

Emperors Palace to host National Poker Championship

Poker faces will be out in full force this April at Emperors Palace with the World Poker Tournament (WPT) National Poker Championship offering high-stakes tournament poker at its best. Riding on the massive success of the World Poker Tour tournament hosted at Emperors Palace last year, South Africa's Vegas of Africa will once again be on the world stage with the WPT National Poker Championship.

Emperors Palace marks yet another milestone in the world-wide growth of high-stakes tournament poker by yet-again bringing this significant gaming event to its prestigious gaming tables. At the same time the casino is promoting the local poker market and hosting international players, ultimately boosting tourism to South Africa.

The action begins on 1 April when Emperors Palace starts the official satellite tournament. The Vegas of Africa will welcome some of the world's biggest names from 4 April, when the official tournament starts. The championship will also see some of South Africa's poker greats pitted against one another. Players will be provided with the full WPT experience as the casino offers four exciting poker events including the highly anticipated WPT Emperors Palace National Championship which will see high-rollers outplay one another.

"The Emperors Palace World Poker Tournament successfully exceeded expectations in 2012 claiming the biggest poker tournament title that Africa experienced to date! The tournament kicked-off with more than 1400 entries and prize monies exceeding R13m. We are excited to see what this year will bring and look forward to hosting all our gaming VIP's and international poker celebrities", comments Peermont Gaming Chief Operating Officer, Bob Yearham.

It's not only the professionals who will be getting in on the action, as there will be events to suit all poker enthusiasts. Entry fees range from R1 000 up to R44 000 per buy-in. All but one game take on the NL Texas Hold Em format – the Omaha National event is in the PL Omaha format. The satellite events to the WPT National Championship cost R1 000 per entry and begin on 1 April, culminating in the WPT main event on 5 April. Entries for the main event cost R14 300.

Other exciting events will also be played around the main event, including the High Roller on 4 April at a buy-in of R44 000. Both the Omaha National, R22 000 buy-in and the Last Chance Turbo, R4 950 buy-in will go down on 6 April.

With such high stakes the excitement will be palpable as high rollers and all other poker players put forward their best hands. Adding to this, local poker enthusiasts will get to mingle with WPT cast members, international poker celebrities and the international tournament director. There will also be exclusive dinners and parties throughout the tournament, as well as stunning attractions in and around the area.

More information is available at the Winners Circle desk at Emperors Palace, or at www.emperorspalace.com or on 011 928 1297/1213. Emperors Palace is a Peermont resort. Visit us on FACEBOOK or follow us on TWITTER @emperorspalace.

Emperors Palace supports the National Responsible Gambling Programme. Problem Gambling Counselling Toll-Free Helpline 0800 06 008. Players must be 18 years or older. Winners know when to stop.

Ends

*Conveniently located alongside O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, South Africa, **Emperors Palace Hotels Casino Conventions and Entertainment Resort** combines timeless classical elegance and sheer excitement. With luxurious **accommodation** in four unique hotels, a glorious health and beauty **spa**, a magnificent **casino** with unparalleled gaming enjoyment, the finest in **dining** options, spectacular **entertainment** choices including a state-of-the-art cinema complex, world-class **conference** facilities, and **impeccable service**. Emperors Palace is the ultimate family destination.*

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