

# Emperors Palace to host world's top poker players

**P**oker faces will be out in full force at Emperors Palace, this April, 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 marks yet another milestone in the worldwide growth of high-stakes tournament poker, by 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 April 1, when Emperors starts the official satellite tournament.

The Vegas of Africa will welcome some of the world's biggest names from April 4, 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 had experienced to date," says Peermont gaming COO, Bob Yearham.

"The tournament kicked off with more than 1 400 entries and prize monies exceeding R13-m.

"We are excited to see what this year will bring and look

forward to hosting all our gaming VIPs and international poker celebrities."

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 April 1, culminating in the WPT main event, on April 5.

Entries to the main event will cost R14 300.

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.

