

Chronology of Gambling Events in Macao

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- 1810 January 5: The government authorizes the first Portuguese-style lottery for charitable purposes
June 15: The government establishes the first lottery-issuing centre
- 1842 Horse racing is introduced
- 1845 Horse racing is suspended
- 1846 February 16: The government legalizes *fantan*
- 1847 January: The government authorizes the first Chinese-style lottery (*baige piao*)
July: The government includes a tax on *weixing* gambling in its revenues
- 1849 April: The government launches a licensing system for *fantan* gambling houses
- 1850 April: The government invites tenders for a *fantan* gambling houses franchise
- 1851 June 17: The government invites tenders for a *baige piao* franchise
- 1882 The government invites tenders for a *fantan* gambling boats franchise
- 1892 The government ends the monopoly on lotteries held by the Santa Casa da Misericórdia (Holy House of Mercy)
- 1927 The Club Internacional de Recreio e Corridas de Macau, Limitada introduces organized horse races in the new racecourse in Areia Preta
- 1930 The government launches a monopoly franchise system for gambling houses
Hou Heng Company wins the monopoly concession to operate gambling houses
- 1931 August: Fan Che-pang et al., who later form the Macao Canine Club, introduce greyhound racing
- 1937 The government passes a law to integrate the operations of different games
Tai Heng Company wins the monopoly concession to operate gambling houses and introduces new Western types of games
- 1941 Horse racing is suspended
- 1942 Greyhound racing is suspended
- 1961 February 13: Governor Marques designates Macao a “permanent gambling region”
July 4: The government decides to liberalize gambling operations and put them up for public bidding
October: Stanley Ho et al. win the monopoly concession to operate casinos and lotteries
- 1962 May 26: Stanley Ho et al. transfer their concession to STDM
STDM’s first casino, Casino Estoril, opens
- 1963 Yat Yuen Canine Club resumes greyhound racing
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- 1970 STDM's flagship Casino Lisboa opens
- 1975 June 15: Sociedade de Pelota Basca de Macau, S.A.R.L. introduces Jai Alai betting
- 1976 April: STDM is granted a contract extension
- 1977 August: Macau Trotting Club is granted a 20-year concession to operate harness racing
- 1980 September: The first harness race is held
- 1982 May 12: The Assembleia Legislativa (Legislative Assembly) passes Law No. 6/82/M, stipulating that the operation of casino gambling activities will be subject to a monopoly franchise or special concession system (up to four concessionaires)
- 1984 December: The government introduces an instant lottery
- 1985 May: The government terminates the *Pou* lottery
- 1986 September: STDM is granted a contract extension
September 12: The Legislative Assembly passes Law No. 10/86/M, stipulating that the number of concessions granted to be limited to three
- 1987 Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. is granted the franchise to operate instant lottery
- 1988 February: Harness racing is suspended
April 5: The government establishes the DICJ
- 1989 Macau Trotting Club is transformed into the Macau Jockey Club for flat-racing
September 10: The first horse race is held
Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. is granted the franchise to operate an instant lottery on Hong Kong-Macao ferries
- 1990 July: Jai Alai betting is suspended
August 24: Wing Hing Lottery Company is granted the concession to operate Chinese lotteries
STDM takes over the Macau Jockey Club
- 1993 Article 118 of the *Basic Law*, promulgated on 31 March, stipulates that Macao "shall, on its own, make policies on tourism and recreation in the light of its overall interests"
- 1998 June 5: Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. is granted the franchise to run football betting
STDM introduces Pachinko
- 2000 March 8: Jiang Zemin, then President of the PRC, announces that no state-related enterprises would be allowed to participate in the Macao gambling business
April 27: Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. is granted the franchise to run basketball betting
June 17: Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. launches Asia's first legal online football betting operation
July: The government establishes the Macao Gaming Committee
August: The Committee hires Arthur Andersen Worldwide to study the development of the gambling industry
December 5: Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. is granted the franchise to run online basketball betting
December 29: Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. launches Asia's first legal online NBA basketball betting operation
- 2001 May 23: Online casino DrHo.com begins operations
August 30: The Legislative Assembly passes the *Legal Framework for the Operations of Casino Games of Fortune* (Law No. 16/2001). It stipulates regulations governing the number of concessions, the conditions, and the processes for open bidding, the operating models and qualifications of shareholders and concessionaires, and issues concerning the gambling tax and contributions to charity. It also legalizes the long-existing gambling promotion system
November 1: The government decides to grant three gambling concessions
December 18: The government extends STDM's concession to 31 March 2002
- 2002 March 28: The government signs an 18-year concession agreement with SJM
April: SJM takes over 11 casinos run by STDM
June 24: The government signs a 20-year concession agreement with Wynn
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- June 26: The government signs a 20-year concession agreement with Galaxy
 December 19: The government authorizes Galaxy to enter into a sub-concession contract with the Venetian
- 2003 August: The government approves horse and greyhound betting via the Internet
 September 29: Mocha Slot Group Limited opens the first Mocha slot machine lounge
- 2004 February 19: *Forbes* ranks the Mandarin Oriental among the world's 10 "Best Casinos"
 April 24: The government approves *baige piao* betting via telephone and the Internet
 May 18: Sands Macao, the first American-run casino in Macao, opens
 May 31: The Legislative Assembly passes the *Law on Regulating Credit Related to Gaming and Betting in Casinos or Other Gaming Venues* (Law No. 5/2004) to regulate gambling-related loan activities
- June 7: The government begins to accept applications for gambling promoter licences
- 2005 January: The government approves the Macau Jockey Club's application to simulcast races in Hong Kong
 April 19: The government authorizes SJM to enter into a sub-concession contract with MGM
- 2006 January 1: Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome Co. Ltd. is granted a 9-year contract extension
 March 23: *Forbes* ranks Hotel Lisboa, the Mandarin Oriental, and Sands Macao among the world's 13 "Hottest Casinos"
 May 9: Melco acquires Mocha Slot Group Limited
 September 1: The government establishes the Departamento de Investigação de Crimes relacionados com o Jogo e Económicos (Gaming-related and Economic Crimes Investigation Department) under the Polícia Judiciária (Judiciary Police)
 September 8: The government authorizes Wynn to enter into a sub-concession contract with Melco
 December: The government approves the Macau Jockey Club's application to simulcast races in Malaysia
- 2007 October: The government approves the Macau Jockey Club's application to simulcast races in Singapore
- 2008 April 22: The Chief Executive announces new measures to limit the numbers of casinos, gambling tables and slot machines, e.g., the number of gambling licences will not be increased in the foreseeable future
- 2009 July 28: The six gambling concessionaires and sub-concessionaires form the Chamber of Macau Casino Gaming Concessionaires and Sub-concessionaires
 September 12: The government sets the upper limit on junket commissions at 1.25% of bets
- 2010 March 23: The Secretário para a Economia e Finanças (Secretary for Economy and Finance) announces a cap on the number of gambling tables, i.e., not to exceed 5,500, until the end of 2012
 The government approves the Macau Jockey Club's application to simulcast races in South Africa
- 2011 There are a total of 34 casinos in Macao, with 23 casinos located on the Macao Peninsula and 11 casinos on Taipa Island
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Sources: Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China; DICJ (2012a, 2012b, 2012c); *Forbes* (2004, 2006); Government Information Bureau (various years); Leung and Lo (2010); Macao Government (1961, 1982, 1986, 1998); Macao SAR Government (2000a, 2000b, 2000c, 2001a, 2001b, 2001c, 2004a, 2004b, 2009); Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (2004); Macau Jockey Club (2011, 2012); Macau SLOT Co. Ltd. (2012); Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome Co. Ltd. (2012); MacauNews (2010); Wu (2009); Wu et al. (2009); Zhang (2011)

Notes: For details of the gambling concessions from 1873 to 1910, see, for example, Zhang (2011, pp. 224–233). For details of the casinos in Macao, see DICJ (2012b)

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Glossary

Ao, Man-long	歐文龍
<i>baige piao</i>	白鴿票
<i>caipiao</i>	彩票
Centro Democrático de Macau	澳門民主協會
Coloane	路環
corporate voters	法人選民
Cotai	路氹
Cotai Strip	路氹金光大道
<i>dadu baijia</i>	大賭敗家
<i>dailou</i>	大佬
<i>daisiu</i>	大小
<i>diaolou</i>	碉樓
Fan, Che-pang	范潔朋
<i>fantan</i>	番攤
Fok, Chi-ting	霍芝庭
Fok, Henry Ying-tung	霍英東
Fok, Kai-cheong	霍啟昌
Fu, Tak-iong	傅德榕
General Union of Neighbourhood Associations of Macao	澳門街坊會聯合總會
Guanzha Incident	關閘事件
Hengqin New Area	橫琴新區
Ho, Chio-meng	何超明
Ho, Edmund Hau-wah	何厚鐸
Ho, Lawrence	何猷龍
Ho, Lin-vong	何連旺
Ho, Pansy	何超瓊
Ho, Shap	何十
Ho, Stanley Hung-sun	何鴻燊
Hou Heng Company	豪興公司
Ip, Hon	葉漢

Ip, Terry Tak-lei	葉得利
<i>Jornal do Cidadão</i>	市民日報
Kiang Wu Hospital	鏡湖醫院
Kou, Ho-neng	高可寧
<i>liangdian</i>	亮點
Lo, Kau	盧九
Lui, Che-woo	呂志和
Macao Chamber of Commerce	澳門中華總商會
Macao Federation of Trade Unions	澳門工會聯合總會
<i>Macao Daily News</i>	澳門日報
<i>minben</i>	民本
New Hope	新希望
New Macau Association	新澳門學社
Ng, Kuok-cheong	吳國昌
<i>paikao</i>	牌九
<i>piao du yin chui</i>	嫖賭飲吹
<i>Pou</i> lottery	鋪票
<i>qinshou zhiyu</i>	禽獸之域
Resilience Centre	志毅軒
<i>shi, nong, gong, shang</i>	士農工商
Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau, S.A.	澳門旅遊娛樂有限公司
Tai Heng Company	泰興公司
Taipa	氹仔
<i>Treaty of Wangxia</i>	望廈條約
Wan, Kuok-koi	尹國駒
<i>weixing</i>	闍姓
The Women's General Association of Macau	澳門婦女聯合總會
Xiao, Yingzhou	蕭瀛洲
<i>xiaodu yiqing</i>	小賭怡情
Zheng, Guanying	鄭觀應