



THE GAMING INDUSTRY'S BILLIONAIRE LIST – 2014

A recent study in Forbes outlined the world's ever growing list of 1,600+ billionaires. Exploring the list in detail reveals the 23 individuals from the gaming industry that rank among the prestigious order. While there are obvious omissions, not least from privately owned businesses, Genting Resorts and there's not a single Russian or South American here, the list is revealing as to the sheer scale of the self-made wealth and geographic dispersion, with almost half the list comprised of South East Asian billionaires. And while Macau sought to break Stanley Ho's monopoly by splitting up his licences, his wives and siblings on this list tell another story.



Sheldon Adelson

Rank: No. 8
Wealth: \$38bn
Age: 80
US

In 2013, Sheldon Adelson made an average of \$32m per day over the last year, as shares of his Las Vegas Sands, worth more than all other U.S. casino companies combined, continued climbing thanks to continued expansion in Asia. Mr. Adelson dropped plans to develop a \$30bn EuroVegas project in Spain and is now pitting himself and his wealth against US online gambling.

THE GAMING BILLIONAIRE LIST

1. Sheldon Adelson – \$38bn
2. Lui Che Woo – \$22bn
3. Johann Graf – \$7.2bn
4. James Packer – \$6.5bn
5. Pansy Ho – \$6.4bn
6. Kunio Busujima – \$4.9bn
7. Kirk Kerkorian – \$4.5bn
8. Steve Wynn – \$3.8bn
9. Han Chang-Woo – \$3.4bn
10. Lawrence Ho – \$3bn
11. Angela Leong – \$2.8bn
12. Elaine Wynn – \$2.7bn
13. Phillip Ruffin – \$2.5bn
14. Manuel Lao Hernandez – \$2.2bn
15. David Chow – \$1.8bn
16. Denise Coates – \$1.6bn
17. Kazuo Okada – \$1.35bn
18. Frank Fertitta, III. – \$1.3bn
19. Lorenzo Fertitta – \$1.3bn
20. Chen Lip Keong – \$1.25bn
21. Hajime Satomi – \$1.1bn
22. Ina Chan – \$1bn
23. Lam Fong Ngo – \$1bn



Lui Che Woo

Rank: No. 28
Wealth: \$22bn
Age: 84
Hong Kong

Lui Che Woo's wealth more than doubled in the last 12 months as shares of Galaxy Entertainment soared in Hong Kong. Bidding \$1.1bn for a Macau gaming license was a master stroke that has since seen Galaxy's market cap reach \$40bn, with Galaxy owning the largest plot of land of the six operators on Cotai. Lui also has plans to invest in Hengqin Island.



Johann Graf,

Rank: No. 186
Wealth: \$7.2bn
Age: 67
Austria

This is the first year that 10 Austrians made it onto the billionaire list. Prof. Johann Graf is currently Austria's second richest citizen, after Red Bull's Dietrich Mateschitz. In 2012, net profit from ordinary activities for the Novomatic Group of Companies, owned by Prof. Graf, rose by 9.1 per cent to €359m (\$488m) on revenue of €3.2bn (\$4.35bn).



James Packer

Rank: No. 208
Wealth: \$6.5bn
Age: 46
Australia

James Packer severed his family's deep ties to the media sector in 2012 when he sold pay-TV company Consolidated Media Holdings to NewsCorp., pocketing \$1 billion. That leaves him to focus on his gaming empire Crown Ltd., which owns casinos in Australia and has a joint venture--Melco Crown Entertainment--in Macau and Manila with Lawrence Ho.

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GAMING'S BILLIONAIRES



Pansy Ho

Rank: No. 212
Wealth: \$6.4bn
Age: 51
Hong Kong

The co-chair of MGM China, Pansy Ho, saw her wealth rise by \$2bn since last year as the shares in her joint venture with MGM Resorts jumped nearly 70 per cent. Pansy became Hong Kong's richest woman when the casino outfit went public in Hong Kong three years ago.



Kunio Busujima

Rank: No. 295
Wealth: \$4.9bn
Age: 88
Japan

Kunio Busujima is the founder and honorary chairman of pachinko gaming-machine maker Sankyo, now run by his son Hideyuki. The company's fortunes are improving with growing sales and a share price bump of more than a third over the past year.



Kirk Kerkorian

Rank: No. 328
Wealth: \$328bn
Age: 96
US

Hotel magnate Kirk Kerkorian is still making money at the age of 96. Despite selling \$750m worth of shares of MGM International Resorts in recent years, the Chairman emeritus (he stepped down as chairman three years ago) still owns nearly one-fifth its shares, which have nearly doubled in the past year – helping boost his net worth by \$1.2bn.



Steve Wynn

Rank: No. 396
Wealth: \$3.8bn
Age: 72
US

Embroided in an ongoing legal dispute with Kazuo Okada, Steve Wynn dropped some of the allegations last year; in October a judge placed the case on six month hold while prosecutors further investigate Okada's potential involvement in bribery in the Philippines. Ex-wife Elaine has capitalised on the dispute to try to regain voting control of her Wynn Resorts stock.



Han Chang-Woo

Rank: No. 466
Wealth: \$3.4bn
Age: 83
Japan

Korean-Japanese businessman Han Chang-Woo, is chairman and CEO of Maruhan, which owns pachinko parlours, bowling alleys, golf driving ranges and movie theaters in Japan. One of its biggest draws are new machine events. At its Tokyo tower more than 500 machines challenge 5,000 daily players. They are replaced every six months.



Lawrence Ho

Rank: No. 551
Wealth: \$3bn
Age: 37
Hong Kong

Son of Macau gambling-industry legend Stanley Ho, has seen a big rise in the stock price of his Hong Kong-listed holding company, Melco International. Melco Crown Entertainment, a venture with Australian billionaire James Packer, which has casino-resort projects in Macau and Manila. He is teaming up with Robert De Niro and others to open a Nobu Hotel in Manila.



Angela Leong

Rank: No. 609
Wealth: \$2.8bn
Age: 52
Hong Kong

Angela Leong, the fourth wife of Stanley Ho (they never officially married), gained control of SJM Holdings after Mr. Ho divided his gambling empire among his four wives and 17 children. SJM, which operates 18 casinos in Macau, is to invest \$3.2bn on a new casino resort in Cotai to compete with its five rivals that already have projects under way there.



Elaine Wynn

Rank: No. 642
Wealth: \$2.7bn
Age: 70
US

Elaine Wynn cofounded Wynn Resorts with ex-husband Steve three decades ago and sits on the board of the company. As part of the couple's 2010 divorce, Elaine received 11 million shares of the company, though an agreement with former business partner, Kazuo Okada, required that she clear any shares sales with her ex-husband.



Phillip Ruffin

Rank: No. 687
Wealth: \$2.5bn
Age: 78
US

Las Vegas tycoon Phillip Ruffin bought Treasure Island Resort & Casino for \$755m in March 2009, with the property now worth an estimated \$1.6bn. He sold the New Frontier Hotel & Casino to Israeli billionaire Yitzhak Tshuva's El-Ad Group in 2007 for \$1.2 billion, after purchasing the hotel in 1998 for only \$165m.

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Manuel Lao Hernandez
Rank: No. 796
Wealth: \$2.2bn
Age: 69
Spain

Manuel Lao Hernandez founded Cirsa as a small gaming company in 1978 and over three decades, turned it into Spain's largest casino corporation. The company operates in nine countries in Latin America and Europe and grossed more than \$2.5bn (€1.8bn) in revenues in 2013. Cirsa is 100 per cent owned by Hernandez. His three children all work in the family business.



David Chow
Rank: No. 988
Wealth: \$1.8bn
Age: 64
Macau

David Chow, Macau Legend's co-chairman and its CEO, is a former Macau legislator, and holds top posts in numerous Macau business groups. His mother Lam Fong Ngo, who sits on Macau Legend's board, is also now a billionaire.



Denise Coates
Rank: No. 1092
Wealth: \$1.6bn
Age: 46
UK

Denise Coates bought the domain Bet365.com in 2000 and launched the website in March 2001 after being shunned by traditional venture capitalists. Today, Coates is joint CEO with her brother John and is by far the largest shareholder in the company with a 50.3 per cent stake. Sales hit \$1.6bn last year at Bet365, which also owns British Premier League team Stoke City.



Kazuo Okada
Rank: No. 1270
Wealth: \$1.35bn
Age: 71
Japan

Kazuo Okada helped launch Wynn Resorts in 2000 with a \$260m investment. Wynn seized Okada's 20 per cent stake in 2012 and gave him a \$1.9bn promissory note. The case drags on, with breach of contract, fraud and other charges yet to be resolved. Mr. Okada is preparing to bid for two Japanese casino licenses and exploring opportunities in Korea and Philippines.



Frank Fertitta
Rank: No. 1284
Wealth: \$1.3bn
Age: 52
US

Frank Fertitta and younger brother Lorenzo own Las Vegas-based Station Casinos, which emerged from bankruptcy in 2011. In April the brothers debuted the U.S.' first legal online gambling site, ultimatepoker.com to capture a piece of the growing \$4 billion online gambling market.



Chen Lip Keong
Rank: No. 1356
Wealth: \$1.25bn
Age: 66
Malaysia

Chen Lip Keong's NagaCorp holds a monopoly on gambling in Phnom Penh, and its NagaWorld is the largest casino in Cambodia. Listed in Hong Kong in 2006, the stock is up on high margins and rising revenue. Naga2 is expected to open in 2015 with two hotels, restaurants, an entertainment and shopping. Plans to build a Vladivostok resort-casino to open in 2018.



Hajime Satomi
Rank: No. 1465
Wealth: \$1.1bn
Age: 72
Japan

Founder and chief of Sega Sammy, Hajime Satomi, returns to the billionaires list as the stock price of his pachinko machine and gaming software firm skyrocketed 40 per cent over the past year. Mr. Satomi has also been expanding into the resort business and promoting the opening of casinos in Japan to attract Asia tourists.



Ina Chan
Rank: No. 1565
Wealth: \$1bn
Age: 60
Hong Kong

Ina Chan, known as the "third wife" of gambling tycoon Stanley Ho, debuts on this year's list thanks to the IPO of casino and hotel business Macau Legend; she owns 13%. Also known as Chan Un Chan, she holds a small stake in STDM, Ho's key investment company for listed casino SJM. Her UNIR Group provides helicopter service in Hong Kong.



Lam Fong Ngo
Rank: No. 1565
Wealth: \$1bn
Age: N/A
Macau

Lam Fong Ngo is the vice chairman of Macau Legend, a casino and hotel operator that went public at the Hong Kong Exchange in 2013. She previously worked for Stanley Ho's Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau. She holds a Medal of Cultural Merit from the Macau government and is an honorary citizen of Guangzhou. She is the mother of Macau Legend's CEO David Chow.