

# **Investment Opportunity - Casinos of Mauritius**

## **Country overview**

Since gaining independence in 1968, Mauritius has witnessed a rapid development and diversification into a multi-pillar economy. A politically stable democracy with a smooth transition of successive Governments coupled with outward-oriented policies have all contributed to economic progress while at the same time strengthening the social fabric.

Mauritius is an open economy, offers a business-friendly climate for investors and has a favourable tax regime. Pleasant living conditions, a bilingual skilled workforce, a sound legal and banking system, adequate infrastructure and good governance practices make Mauritius an attractive destination for business, work and live.

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was severe on the country and the tourism sector. Extensive state-support measures, successful vaccination campaign and the re-opening of borders contributed to the gradual economic recovery.

## **Background**

As part of a strategic divestment programme, the Government of Mauritius has announced its intention to divest its holdings in the 'Casinos of Mauritius' held through The State Investment Corporation Limited (SIC). The SIC is the majority shareholder of the 'Casinos of Mauritius', which run casino outlets in strategic locations across the country. The investors will have the option to bid for the Casino companies as a group or individually.

## **Casino Operations in Mauritius**

The SIC has historically been the majority shareholder of all the casinos licensed in Mauritius. 'Casinos of Mauritius' consist of four units which are operational and two units which are not presently operational.

The four casinos in operation are:

- Le Caudan Waterfront Casino Limited (CWC) situated at Port Louis;
- Le Grand Casino Du Domaine Limitee (GCD) situated at Les Pailles;
- Casino De Maurice Limited (CDM) situated at Curepipe; and
- Grand Baie Casino Ltd (GBC) situated at Grand Baie.

Beach Casinos and Sun Casinos are presently not in operation.

## Location of the Casinos



## Mauritius Macroeconomic Snapshot

Population: 1.26 million

Per capita income: USD 8,744

GDP Growth rate: 3.9%

Headline inflation: 6%

## Gaming equipment and slot machines

Gaming tables and slots*	
Gaming Tables	<b>59</b>
- American Roulette	42
- Black Jack	12
- Poker	5
Slot Machines	<b>275</b>

\* All casinos combined as at 19 April 2022

## Strengths and Opportunities

- High barriers to entry. Currently, casino licences have been issued solely to casino companies where SIC is a shareholder.
- Well-established market position
- Situated in prime locations
- The Casinos of Mauritius are the only operators which are allowed to operate live table games in Mauritius

## Financial Overview

	<i>2019 Actual USD'm Jan – Dec</i>	<i>2020 Actual USD'm Jan – Dec</i>	<i>2021 Actual USD'm Jan – Dec</i>
<b>Gross Wins</b>			
- Table Games	9.5	6.0	2.3
- Slot Machines	8.2	5.0	1.6
Gaming Tax	4.6	2.9	1.0
<b>Net revenue</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>

*Note: Casino operations were impacted by two Covid-19 lockdowns and casino closures during the years 2020 and 2021. The results above are for four casinos in operation.*

## Criteria for selection of bidders

The criteria for the selection of bidders shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Well-established international leisure and gaming experience showing the required expertise to run the operation and management of leisure activities and casinos or a financial investor in joint venture with a well-established gaming operator
- Capacity to run leisure and entertainment operations and to promote other innovative leisure activities in Mauritius
- Financial capability and commitment to complete the transaction as well as to undertake future investment plans
- Ability to improve the operational standards of the Casinos including, inter-alia, the provision of a comprehensive staff training and management development programme to safeguard employment

## For more information, please contact:

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