

# EUROPEAN ROUND UP

## RECORD PRIZES AND PARTICIPANT NUMBERS FOR MONTE CARLO GRAND FINALE OF EUROPEAN POKER TOUR

Pieter de Korver was pronounced the winner at the grand finale of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the European Poker Tour, held over 28 April – 3 May at the Monte Carlo Montecarlo Bay Resort.

Dutchman Mr Korver received a prize of EUR 2.3 million, the largest win in a poker tournament outside of Las Vegas.

After three intense games of play, De Korver came in ahead of 935 other players from 57 countries who all took part in the main EPT event in Monte Carlo.

*"It's amazing. I loved the atmosphere and was really enjoying playing cards. The 9 hours at the final table were incredible and nothing was settled until the final. It was an unforgettable experience"* declared the winner shortly after the final game, broadcast live in 8 languages by PokerStars.tv.



The glamour and luxury of Monte Carlo were reflected in the tournament



The final table



The 8 finalists

John Duthie, founder of PokerStars EPT, stated: *"The loyalty and dedication of European Poker Tour players never ceases to amaze me, and this year was no different. Next season will be even better and promises to break all records with new venues, including Moscow"*.

The 6<sup>th</sup> season of PokerStars EPT will kick off in the Russian capital over 17-23 August 2009.

PokerStars is the biggest poker room in the world, with over 20 million members world wide.

It has hosted over 140 million poker tournaments and is in the Guinness Book of Records for organising the biggest online poker tournament in the world, with 35,000 players, and for being the first and only online poker site to have 200,000 players all playing at the same time.

PokerStars is the official sponsor of the European Poker Tour, the PokerStars Caribbean Adventure, the Latin American Poker Tour, the Asia Pacific Poker Tour and the World Poker Cup.



Pieter de Korver, winner of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the European Poker Tour



Montecarlo Bay Resort

De Korver turned pro just two years ago, and was last year's winner in the PokerStars-sponsored "Poker Kampioen Van Nederland", coming in ahead of 20,000 other players.

Other big names at the event included poker legend Daniel Negreanu, current world champion Peter Eastgate and former champions including Joe Hachem, Greg Raymer and Chris MoneyMaker. Also present were rappers Nelly and Bruno "Kool Shen" Lopes, rugby star Sebastien Chabal and tennis player Boris Becker.

Some 1000 players took part in the event



Expectations for the tournament were very high



Pieter de Korver receives his prize