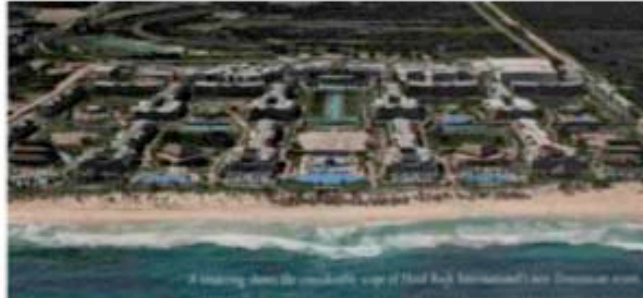


# Casino JOURNAL



## Piece of the Rock lands this spring on a resort beach in the Dominican

Hard Rock International and Palace Resorts are partnering to bring a Hard Rock-themed casino to the Dominican Republic.

The rebranding of Palace's Moon Palace Golf & Spa Resort, located at the eastern tip of the island at Macao Beach in Punta Cana, is scheduled for completion this spring, when a new Hard Rock Hotel & Casino will open with a 48,000-square-foot gaming floor fitted with 457 slot machines and 40 table games, a race and sports book, a poker room and a VIP lounge.

In addition to an 1,800-room hotel, the resort's expansive 121 acres will contain 11 swimming pools, a 1,200-seat amphitheater, 65,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space, a 15,000-square-foot "Body Rock" fitness center, a 60,000-square-foot "Rock Spa," plus two tennis courts, a rock-climbing wall, child-care services, a hair salon, retail outlets and three floating "wedding pavilions."

The property also will house one of Hard Rock's signature collections of authentic music memorabilia.

"Punta Cana is a world-class location and one of the Caribbean's top travel destinations, and Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana is a perfect complement to the region," said Minister of Tourism Francisco Javier Garcia. "I am confident that Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana will have a significant economic impact on our country's growing tourism."

"We look forward to bringing the excitement of U.S.-style gaming and our industry expertise to the Dominican Republic," said Jim Allen, chairman of Seminole Hard Rock Entertainment. "Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana will quickly become the premier gaming destination in the Caribbean."

The Seminole Tribe of Florida owns Hard Rock International.

The Hard Rock brand is attached to 158 venues in 53 countries, including 12 casino hotels. Hard Rock International is in the throes of an aggressive plan of global expansion, with hotels and casinos on the drawing board for Panama, Singapore, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Hungary and the United States.

Palace Resorts operates 11 seafloor resort hotels in Mexico in addition to the Punta Cana location.

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