

COSTA DEL SOL in Torremolinos, Malaga et al. (1961 – 1987)

Gligoric, Pomar, Szabo, O'Kelly, Ivkov, Benko, Torre, R. Byrne, Christiansen, Seirawan, Tal among the winners by JAN VAN REEK (R.I.P.): http://www.endgame.nl/costa_del_sol.html, with an additional survey

When tourism developed at the Spanish coast, it became feasible to organize an annual chess event during the off-season. **A long series of master chess tournaments was played annually at the Costa del Sol from 1961 until 1987.** Main venues were **Torremolinos** and **Malaga** (Note: Later and independently, there had been an Open series in Malaga, too).

The inaugural event happened at Hotel Pez Espada in Torremolinos from 24 i until 7 ii 1961. Six Spaniards and six foreigners competed. It became a race between Gligoric and Pomar Salamanca. Great Gligoric won on tie-break and got a trophy. Five grandmasters participated in Malaga 1964. Pomar Salamanca won, ahead of joint Lengyel, and Portisch.



Hotel Pez Espade in Torremolinos



Pomar Salamanca - Eliskases in 1961



Pomar Salamanca - O'Kelly de Galway in 1962

The formulae started to change in 1969, because the number of participants in the closed contest started to differ from twelve. Pomar Salamanca won in 1971 by defeating Timman in the last round. **Pomar Salamanca, O'Kelly de Galway, and Benko (co-)won the tournament three times.** Eugenio Torre scored a grandmaster result in the Hotel Cervantes during the edition of 1974.



Hotel Malaga Palacio



Hotel Cervantes in Torremolinos



The tournament places were mainly in **Torremolinos** (the first edition 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965, from 1973 to 1978, 1980, 1985, and 1986), and **Malaga** (1963, from 1966 to 1972, and 1981). **Fuengirola** (1979) and **Vista de Rincon** near Malaga (last edition 1987) hosted one edition. **Marbella** organised a Zonal (1982).

First places in Costa del Sol tournament (played annually 1961 – 1987)

1961 **Gligoric & Pomar Salamanca**, 3. Najdorf, 4.= Elisakases, 8. Portisch (12 players)
 1962 **Parma, Szabo & Perez Perez**
 (some sources mistakenly gave 1962 as a Zonal)
 1963 **O'Kelly de Galway**, 2.-3. Parma, L. Schmid
 1964 **Pomar Salamanca**, 2.-3. Lengyel, Portisch
 1965 (5th edition) **Medina Garcia**
 1966 **O'Kelly de Galway & Jimenez Zerquera**
 1967 **O'Kelly de Galway**
 1968 **Marovic & Ivkov**
 1969 **Benko & Ivkov**
 1970 (10th edition) **Benko & Kurajica**
 1971 **Pomar Salamanca**, 2. Bisguier, 5. Timman
 1972 **Hecht**, 2. Browne
 1973 **Quinteros & Benko**
 1974 **Torre & Gheorghiu**

1975 (15th edition) **Radulov & Quinteros**
 1976 **R. Byrne**
 1977 **Christiansen**
 1978 **Bellon Lopez**, 2.-3. Sanz Alonso, Andersson
 1979 **Martin Gonzalez, Castro Rojas & Padevsky**
 1980 (20th edition) **Seirawan**
 1981 **Tal**, 2-4 Marovic, Ivkov, Csom, 5. Ciocaltea
 1982 (Zonal in Marbella) **Mestel, Van der Wiel, Nunn & Stean** (playing later a play-off in Leiden)
 1983 **Rivas Pastor**
 1984 **Calvo**, 2-3 Nogueiras, Ivkov
 1985 (25th edition) **Rivas Pastor, Kudrin & IM** (GM in 1986) **Fernández Garcia**
 1986 **Georgadze**, 2. Illescas Cordoba
 1987 **Hebden**, clear first (10 players)

The level went slightly downwards during the last tournaments, but the victory by Tal 1981 in an international installment became another highlight. The line-up of the following events, showed mostly national players. The 25th edition in 1985 at Torremolinos was won by Rivas Pastor, Kudrin and José Luis Fernandez Garcia. There were further closed and open tournaments in this region, specially the Malaga Open series (not to mix with the closed Malaga, Costa del Sol tournaments).

Record (thrice) winners: **Pomar Salamanca** (1961, '64, '71), **O'Kelly des Galway** (1963, '66, '67) and **Benko** (1969, '70, '73). **Ivkov**, a frequent and popular player at the Costa del Sol series, **Radulov**, **Rivas Pastor**, and **Quinteros** won or co-won twice. The most prominent winners were **Gligoric**, **Szabo**, **Torre**, **R. Byrne**, **Christiansen**, **Seirawan**, and former World Champion **Tal**.

Stars not winning: *Najdorf*, *Eliskases*, *Browne* (2x), *Portisch* (2x), *Andersson*, or young *Timman*.

1° Torneo Costa del Sol 1961 - Torremolinos



Vista de Torremolinos (Málaga)

Ajedrecista		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Puntos
1-2	Svetozar Gligoric	*	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	½	½	1	8.5 de 11
1-2	Arturo Pomar	0	*	1	½	1	1	1	1	½	½	1	1	8.5 de 11
3	Miguel Najdorf	½	0	*	½	½	½	½	1	1	0	1	½	6.0 de 11
4-7	Roman Toran	½	½	½	*	½	½	0	½	½	1	½	½	5.5 de 11
4-7	Erich Eliskases	½	0	½	½	*	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	5.5 de 11
4-7	Miquel Farre	0	0	½	½	½	*	½	1	½	½	½	1	5.5 de 11
4-7	Alberic O'Kelly	0	0	½	1	½	½	*	0	½	½	1	1	5.5 de 11
8	Lajos Portisch	0	0	0	½	0	0	1	*	1	1	1	½	5.0 de 11
9	Francisco José Perez	0	½	0	½	½	½	½	0	*	½	1	½	4.5 de 11
10-11	Wolfgang Heidenfeld	½	½	1	0	½	½	½	0	½	*	0	0	4.0 de 11
10-11	Máximo López	½	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	1	*	1	4.0 de 11
12	Rafael Saborido	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	½	1	0	*	3.5 de 11

General Surveys:

http://www.ajedrezdeataque.com/05%20Palmares/Torneos/Espana/Costa_Sol.htm (Overview),
http://www.ajedrezdeataque.com/04%20Articulos/00%20Otros%20articulos/Pereiro/Costa_del_Sol.htm
(Year-by-Year Tables from **Javier Cordero Fernández, Ajedrez de ataque**)

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournoi_d%27%27%27C3%A9checs_de_la_Costa_del_Sol (Wikipedia)

JAN VAN REEK (R.I.P.) http://www.endgame.nl/costa_del_sol.html (site is no longer available)



Costa del Sol invitation tournament. In several cities in Southern Spain near Torremolinos, popular chess events were organised in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s (see above).



Vista de Málaga (España)

After a break of 11 years, the **Malaga Open** as an annual swiss tourney, followed independently:



Malaga Open:

1998 (1st Malaga Open) Korneev, 1999 Korneev, 2000 Gleizerov, 2001 Vera, 2002 Herrera, 2003 Tiviakov, 2004 Khamrakulov, 2005 Colovic, 2006 Cikac, 2007 Strikovic, 2008 Almeida Quinta, 2009 Paunovic, 2010 Strikovic, 2011 Ibarra Jerez. Updated 10.11.2011 (CNC)

Source: <http://www.ajedrezdeataque.com/05%20Palmares/Torneos/Espana/Malaga.htm>

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