

Las Palmas (1972-1996) Larsen, Smyslov, Tal, Anand, Kramnik not winning !

YEAR	CHAMPION and major contestants	COUNTRY
1972 first edition Torneo Internacional Ciudad Las Palmas Isla de Gran Canaria	Lajos Portisch (2./3. Larsen, Smyslov, 4. Bronstein, 5./6. Benkö, Tatai, 7. Gheorghiu, 8. Andersson, 16 players) Organizer & tournament director: Jorge Puig Laborda	Hungary
1973 (2nd edition)	Leonid Stein and Tigran Petrosian (9.5 pts.) (3.-6. Hort, Panno, Andersson, Ribli (9 pts.), 14. W. Hug, Switzerland, 6 pts., 16 players) <i>Last international tournament of Leonid Stein who died a few months later at age of 38 1/2</i>	USSR, USSR
1974 (3rd edition)	Ljubomir Ljubojevic (2.-4. Beliavsky, Olafsson, Garcia González (Cuba), 5.-7. Polugaevsky, Larsen, Andersson)	Yugoslavia
1975 (4th edition)	Ljubomir Ljubojevic , second win (2.-4. Tal, Mecking, Andersson; 5./6. Hort, Olafsson, 7. Petrosian)	Yugoslavia
1976 (5th edition)	Efim Geller (2. Larsen, 3./4. Hübner, Byrne, 5.= Portisch)	USSR
1977 (6th edition)	Anatoly Karpov (2. Larsen, 3. Timman, 4.= Tal, Browne)	USSR
1978 (7th edition)	Gyula Sax and Vladimir Tukmakov (3. Olafsson, 4./5. Miles, Stean, 6./7. Larsen, Westerinen)	Hungary, USSR
1979 (8th edition)	Rafael Vaganian (2./3. Garcia Gonzales, Ivkov, 4. Geller)	USSR
1980 (9th edition)	Efim Geller , second win, and Tigran Petrosian , second win, and Anthony Miles (Andersson, Sosonko, amongst others)	USSR USSR England
1981 (10th jubilee edition)	Jan Timman (2. Larsen, 3./4. Korchnoi, Seirawan)	Netherlands
1982 Interzonal	Zoltan Ribli (2. Smyslov also qualified; then: 3. Suba, 4./5. Petrosian, Tukmakov, 6./7. Larsen, Timman)	Hungary
1983, 1984, 1985, 1986	(no invitation tournaments)	
1987, Santa Catalina (Spain), Gran Canaria (not to mix with regular Open!)	Ivan Morovic and Manuel Rivas Pastor (3. Sunye Neto, 4. Illescas Cordoba, 10 players) (Morovic won also multiple times the Las Palmas Open)	Chile, Spain
1988, 1989, 1990	(no invitation tournament of note)	
1991, Dec Torneo Internacional Ciudad Las Palmas Isla de Gran Canaria	Viktor Korchnoi (1st on tie-break), and Zénon Franco Ocampos , and IM Veselin Topalov (third GM norm) (4. Granda Zuniga, 5. Morovic, 10 players)	Switzerland Paraguay Bulgaria
1992 (Mesa-A)	Veselin Topalov (now GM), second win, and Mikhail Ulibin (GM) (10 players, incl. Morovic)	Bulgaria Russia
1993, June I. Lark tournament (cat. 16)	Ivan Morovic , second win in an invitation at Las Palmas (2./3. Anand, Khalifman, 4./5. Jussupow, Adams, 10 pl.)	Chile
1993 (moderate strength, further but minor events are not listed)	Michal Krasenkow and Ilija Smirin (3. IM Felix Izeta Txabarri, third GM norm, 10 players)	Poland, Israel
1994, May II. Lark tournament (cat. 17)	Gata Kamsky (2. Karpov, 3./4. Topalov, Lautier, 5. Judit Polgar, 6.-8. Morovic, Illescas, Adams, 9. Shirov, 10. Epishin)	USA
1995	(no invitation tournament; PCA Candidate's final)	
1996, Torneo Mundial de Ajedrez (first category 21 tournament ever, all six players from Elo top seven)	Gary Kasparov (2. Anand; 3./4 Kramnik, Topalov; 5./6. Ivanchuk, Karpov as joint last, the latter with no game win, 6 players DRR)	Russia

Source: www.ajedrezdeataque.com/05%20Palmares/Torneos/Espana/Las_Palmas.htm, extended and revised

LAS PALMAS, Larsen, Tal, Smyslov, Anand, Kramnik not winning! Fischer, Spassky did not take part



History: Las Palmas is the capital of Grand Canaria in the Canary Islands which hosted in **1971 the FIDE Candidates Quarterfinal Match Bent Larsen vs. Wolfgang Uhlmann** (5½-3½), **the Interzonal Tournament of 1982** (won by Zoltan Ribli), in **1995 the PCA Candidates Final Match Viswanathan Anand vs. Gata Kamsky** (6½-4½), and a series of very strong, today called **supertournaments which were held between 1972 and 1996**, sometimes parallel with an Open. The last big GM invitation event at Las Palmas in 1996, won by Garry Kasparov will be remembered as **one of the strongest tournaments of all times**.

The Las Palmas invitation tournament winner list includes amongst some others Petrosian (twice), Karpov, Kasparov, Korchnoi, Geller (twice), Stein (last international tournament of Leonid Stein who died a few months later in 1973 at age of 38 ½), Vaganian, Tukmakov, Portisch, Sax, Ljubojevic (twice), Topalov (twice), Timman, Miles, Morovic (twice, plus several times in the Open; in the GM invitation 1993, Morovic won above Anand, Khalifman, Jussupow, Adams), and Kamsky (one of his finest hour at a very top tournament, winning in the GM 1994 as clear first, undefeated over runner-up Karpov, followed by Topalov, Lautier, Judit Polgar).

Larsen (and his Scandinavian compatriots Andersson and Olafsson), Panno, Mecking, Hübner, Hort, Bronstein, Beliavsky, Polugaevsky, Ivanchuk, Shirov, as well as the **World Champions Tal, Smyslov, Kramnik, and Anand all played - but failed to win** at Las Palmas invitation tournament! (of course, not necessarily as reigning champ)

Famous game:

Olafsson vs. Tal 1-0.

Video annotation of that fine game at Las Palmas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0m...>

Theme: REMOVAL OF THE GUARD (because it involves attacking a defender) that is combined with a DOUBLE ATTACK, quote from **< notyetagm >**.

Tournament: Las Palmas 1975 (4th), young Ljubomir Ljubojevic won a second time; followed by 2.-4. Tal, Mecking, Andersson; then 5.-6. Hort, Olafsson; 7. Petrosian; 8. Tatai; etc.

The winners of Las Palmas invitation tournaments: 1972 (first edition) Portisch, 1973 Stein and Petrosian, 1974 Ljubojevic, 1975 Ljubojevic, 1976 Geller, 1977 Karpov, 1978 Sax and Tukmakov, 1979 Vaganian, 1980 Geller, 1981 (10th edition) Timman, 1982 (Interzonal) Ribli. +++ break +++ 1987 Morovic and Rivas Pastor, 1991 Korchnoi, Topalov and Franco Ocampos (4. Granda Zuniga, 5. Morovic), 1992 (Mesa-A) Topalov and Ulibin, 1993 (I. Lark) Morovic (2.-3. Anand, Khalifman), 1994 (II. Lark) Kamsky (one of Kamsky's finest hour at a very top tournament, winning as clear first in 1994, undefeated above Karpov: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=80002>), and 1996 (last edition, supertorneo, first time cat. 21) Kasparov winning: full standings further below.

Sometimes with additional B- and even C-group, for instance in the year 1993:

... B-group 1993: Bologan ahead of Barlov; C-group 1993: IM Strikovic (including IM Danailov)

Several strong Open Festivals (incomplete):

Las Palmas, El Corte Ingles Open Festivals 1986 → Morovic, ... 1988 Kudrin, 1989 Kudrin (10th edition), clear first ahead of 2./3. Hebden, Granda Zuniga, ... 1992 Kurajica, Van Wely, ..., 1994 → Morovic, 1995 → Morovic, Rausis, Pia Cramling, 1996 Gulko, 1999 De Firmian, ..., ..., 2003 Azarov, ..., 2005 Kurajica, 2006 Vega Gutierrez, 2007 Lezcano Jaen, 2008 Fernandez Romero, 2009 Kurajica, 2010 Kurajica

Isla de Gran Canaria Open Festivals: 1996, February (1st edition): Lobron on tie-break, Miles

Footnote:

Parallel to the major series, there have been various moderate or minor strong invitation (closed) tournaments at Las Palmas, already in 1970s (as an example here: Hospitalet de Llobre IT 1973, won by **Jan Smejkal**, ahead of joint IM (later GM) Diez del Corral and IM Hamann, Danmark)

In the 1990s, there were some other, but minor closed and open tournaments played in Las Palmas. You read for instance: Bologan won two tournaments at Las Palmas in 1993. What does that mean?











As pointed out: Parallel to the major events there were again some further, but medium to minor strong invitation (closed) in Las Palmas (for instance in 1993, young and rising **Viorel Bologan** won two round robin tournaments, namely Las Palmas, Pirez and Las Palmas, Lark B-group, both **clearly of minor strength and thus not listed above in the principal survey which is complete!**)

Two of many further but minor invitation tournaments at Las Palmas, just for illustration reasons, why they have been omitted for reasons of consistency and clarity in the principal and full survey!

Las Palmas Pirez, omitted in the principal survey (lack of strength)

 Las Palmas 1993

Date	Type	Elo	Average	Games	Rounds
Sep, 1993	Tourn	2402		45	9

Name	ELO	Points
 GM Bologan, Viktor	2510	8.5
 GM Kurajica, Bojan	2550	6.5
 GM Cifuentes Parada, Roberto	2495	6.0
 GM Todorcevic, Miodrag	2480	6.0
 FM Solana Suarez, Ernesto	2335	6.0
 IM Garcia Padron, Jose	2465	4.0
 FM Menvielle Laccourreya, Augusto	2305	3.5
 IM Brito Garcia, Alfredo	2375	2.0
 Castellano Ojeda, Jose	2255	1.5
 Ramos, Victor Miguel	2250	1.0

Las Palmas I. Lark - B, omitted in the principal survey (B-group, lack of strength)

 Las Palmas 1993

Date	Type	Elo	Average	Games	Rounds
Jun, 1993	Tourn	2394		45	9

Name	ELO	Points
 GM Bologan, Viktor	2510	7.5
 GM Barlov, Dragan	2495	7.0
 GM Todorcevic, Miodrag	2480	6.0
 IM Garcia Padron, Jose	2465	5.5
 IM Reyes, Juan	2450	5.0
 IM Brito Garcia, Alfredo	2375	4.5
 Villavicencio Martinez, Adalberto	2360	4.5
 FM Birmingham, Eric	2300	2.5
 Anguix Garrido, Juan Francisco	2340	2.0
 FM Trujillo Alvarado, Ivan	2165	0.5

Sources:


http://www.chessnc.com/p_tournaments/item-111.html

http://www.ajedrezdeataque.com/05%20Palmares/Torneos/Espana/Las_Palmas.htm

<http://www.365chess.com/tournaments.php?tname=Las+Palmas&year=&country=&avgelos=>

“Mr. Las Palmas”



 Ivan Eduardo Morovic Fernandez (born 1963), Chilean GM (1985/86)

Holder of the first Grandmaster title awarded to a Chilean player.

Bronze Medal at the Junior World Chess Championship (19th) in 1980 at Dortmund
(Gold: Kasparov, Silver: Short). **National Champion in 1981** ([Chilean Chess Championship](#)).

Morovic can be regarded as “Mr. Las Palmas” of the second phase of Las Palmas tournaments:

=1st 1987 Las Palmas, Santa Catalina Invitation (joint with Rivas Pastor. 3. Sunye Neto, 4. Illescas)

1st 1993 Las Palmas, Lark Invitation (2./3. Anand, Khalifman, 4./5. Yusupov, Adams, 7.= Topalov)

Multiple Winner Las Palmas Open, 1986, 1994, 1995 (shared with Igor Rausis, and Pia Cramling)

Other big tournament success of Morovic: **=1st 1997 (8th) Buenos Aires, Najdorf Tournament**

(joint with Emil Sutovsky), a few months before legendary Miguel Najdorf (1910-1997) died;

=1st 1998 (33th) Capablanca Memorial, Elite (joint with Robert Hübner and Yaacov Zilberman)

Ljubojevic, **Geller**, and **Petrosian** were twice winner or co-winner of the initial Las Palmas series (1972-1982). Ljubomir Ljubojevic is the only player to defend his Las Palmas tournament title successfully: After winning it again in 1975, Ljubo was voted 2nd at the Chess Oscar that year!

Initiator and organizer of the first ten years:



Photos: CNC

Jorge Puig (left), Fridrik Olafsson, Joan Segura, Jaume Mora

Jorge Puig (born in 1928, died in 1989) was a Spanish journalist and tournament organizer (→ **Palma de Mallorca** series → **Las Palmas** first ten years) and driving force behind the **International Association of Chess Press (AIPE)** which also created the famous **Chess Oscar** in 1967, an international award given annually to the best chess player. The winner is selected by votes that are cast by chess journalists from all across the world. Though the formal leader of AIPE was Mr. Sven Novrup from Denmark, Jorge Puig Laborda delivered the prize Oscar by himself! Unfortunately, the history of the Oscar was interrupted after the award of 1988 by a sudden death of the founder (then, after a pause, the Chess Oscar was resumed in 1995 and have been organized by the Russian chess magazine 64).

History of the Oscar: <http://www.chessmaniac.com/the-chess-oscar/> (by Bill Wall)

Selection of famous chess events in Las Palmas

Official Matches and Tournament:

→ FIDE Candidates Cycle 1970-1972:

Quarterfinal Match in Las Palmas 1971 Larsen vs. Uhlmann 5.5-3.5

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=84906>

→ PCA Candidates Cycle 1993-1995:

The Final Anand vs. Kamsky 6.5-4.5 was played in [Las Palmas](#) in March 1995.

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chesscollection?cid=1007394>

→ FIDE Interzonal in 1982: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=83388>

The first and the final international invitation tournament at Las Palmas:

Inaugural edition in 1972: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=83198>

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chesscollection?cid=1028167>

Las Palmas (1972)

While waiting for the [Fischer - Spassky World Championship Match \(1972\)](#), several tournaments were organized: [Hastings \(1971/72\)](#), [Hoogovens \(1972\)](#), [Sarajevo \(1972\)](#), [Lone Pine \(1972\)](#) and [Teesside \(1972\)](#), to mention a few. In the Canaries, which was flooded with tourist money, chess enthusiasts had found a heaven in Hotel Santa Catalina^{1, 2, 3} in Las Palmas. Here started this year a series of GM events that would culminate with the Las Palmas Interzonal (1982). According to Chessmetrics⁴ the highest ranked of the 16 players were Portisch (#9), Smyslov (#11), Larsen (#12), Bronstein (#16), and Gheorghiu (#29) (but see FIDE ratings in the crosstable). The tournament was played at almost exactly the same time as [IBM Amsterdam \(1972\)](#). Playing time was 4 to 9 pm.⁶ Round 10 was played 1 day earlier than scheduled because of an excursion.⁵ Tournament Director was the publisher [Jorge Puig Laborda](#), assisted by [Juan Betancort Curbelo](#) and others.⁶

Hotel Santa Catalina, Las Palmas, Spain, 29 May - 17 June 1972 ^{7, 8}

	Elo	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts	SonBe
1 GM Portisch	2630	*	1	½	½	1	1	½	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	12	
2 GM Larsen	2660	0	*	1	½	½	0	1	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	70.7
3 GM Smyslov	2620	½	0	*	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	70.7
4 GM Bronstein	2590	½	½	½	*	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	10	
5 GM Benkö	2520	0	½	½	½	*	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	½	1	0	1	9	60.5
6 IM Tatai	2440	0	1	0	½	½	*	½	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	1	9	58.5
7 GM Gheorghiu	2530	½	0	½	0	½	½	*	1	0	½	1	1	½	1	1	½	8½	
8 IM Andersson	2510	0	½	½	½	½	½	0	*	½	0	½	½	1	1	1	1	8	
9 IM Lehmann	2420	½	½	0	½	½	½	1	½	*	½	½	0	½	½	1	½	7½	
10 IM Medina	2420	½	0	½	½	0	0	½	1	½	*	0	0	½	1	1	1	7	

11	GM Pomar	2510	½	0	0	½	0	½	0	½	½	1	*	½	½	½	½	1	6½	
12	Menvielle	2200	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	½	1	1	½	*	0	0	½	1	5½	
13	Visier	2370	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	½	½	1	*	½	½	½		5	
14	Huguet	2255	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	½	0	½	1	½	*	½	½	4	
15	Dominguez	2200	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	½	½	½	*	½	3½
16	Valcárcel	2200	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	0	0	½	½	½	*		2½

Special prizes: [Gheorghiu vs Ulf Andersson, 1972](#) (best game), [Portisch vs A Menvielle Laccourreya, 1972](#) (best attack) and [Portisch vs Larsen, 1972](#) (best endgame).⁹

Tournament books: *I Gran Torneo Internacional de Ajedrez Mayo - Junio 1972 Ciudad Las Palmas de Gran Canaria* (Ajedrez Canario/Caja Insular de Ahorros de Gran Canaria, Las Palmas 1972. 92 p.); *Las Palmas 1972* (Chess Player, Nottingham 1972. 24 p.) (none seen). About 9 rounds are covered by IM [Roman Toran Albero](#) in the newspaper *La Vanguardia* (<http://www.lavanguardia.com/hemerot...>).

1) *La Vanguardia* 4 June 1972 p. 38: <http://hemeroteca.lavanguardia.com/...> 2) Wikipedia: <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikiped...> 3) *Revista 64*, 11 July 2011: <https://dl.dropbox.com/u/36231222/R...> 4) *Chessmetrics* May 1972 list: <http://www.chessmetrics.com/cm/CM2/...> 5) *La Vanguardia* 11 June 1972 p. 44. 6) *Aguayro* 32 (October 1972) p. 20-21: <http://mdc.ulpgc.es/cdm/singleitem/...> 7) *La Vanguardia* 20 June 1972 p. 44: <http://hemeroteca.lavanguardia.com/...> (standings). 8) *Cajota* 64, 4 Jan. 2013: <http://cajota64.blogspot.no/2013/01...> (standings and crosstable). 9) *Revista 64*, 11 July 2011: <http://www.revista64.com/2011/07/i-...>

Original collection: [Game Collection: Las Palmas 1972](#) by User: [Tabanus](#).

Last edition in 1996: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=80010>

Las Palmas (1996) Supertorneo Mundial de Ajedrez ("Turnier-WM") Gran Canaria '96

The Supertorneo Las Palmas held from December 9th to the 21st, 1996 was a **category XXI** event. Six out of the seven best players of the world, including **both World Champions**, competed in a double round robin format. The participants were (in order of ELO): Garry Kasparov (2785), Anatoli Karpov (2775), Vladimir Kramnik (2765), Veselin Topalov (2750), Vishwanathan Anand (2735), and Vassily Ivanchuk (2730). No. 6 of the world, Gata Kamsky (2745) was not playing.

The strongest tournament of the modern era so far (the only tournament with an average of 2756 ELO), Kasparov emerged triumphant as "the best player in the world at that moment." The event was won by Kasparov with 3 wins and 7 draws. Anand took sole 2nd place. Karpov could not win a single game out of ten and tied for last place with Ivanchuk. Four of the six players have been undisputed world chess champions. Plus Topalov, a FIDE world champion.

1	Kasparov	6.5/10	**	½½	½½	1½	½1	½1
2	Anand	5.5/10	½½	**	½0	½½	1½	½1
3	Kramnik	5.0/10	½½	½1	**	½0	01	½½
4	Topalov	5.0/10	0½	½½	½1	**	01	½½
5	Ivanchuk	4.0/10	½0	0½	10	10	**	½½
6	Karpov	4.0/10	½0	½0	½½	½½	½½	**

Original collection: [Game Collection: Las Palmas 1996](#), by User: [suenteus po 147](#)

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