



Casino Developer **Stephen A. Wynn** is widely credited with transforming Las Vegas into a world-renowned resort and convention destination. As Chairman of the Board, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Mirage Resorts, Incorporated, he envisioned and built The Mirage, Treasure Island, and Bellagio, resorts that set progressively higher standards for quality, luxury, and entertainment.

Mr. Wynn began his career in 1967 as part owner, Slot Manager, and Assistant Credit Manager of the Frontier Hotel. Between 1968 and 1972 he also owned and operated a wine and liquor importing company. But it was an entrepreneurial real estate transaction with Howard Hughes in 1971 that produced sufficient profits for a major investment in the landmark Golden Nugget Casino. Once known only as a “gambling joint,” Mr. Wynn transformed the Golden Nugget into a Four Diamond resort known for elegance and personal service. By 1973, at age 31, Mr. Wynn controlled the property and began developing the Golden Nugget as a complete hotel resort.

In 1978, Stephen Wynn used profits from the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas to build the 506-room Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City. The resort became known for its elegant facilities and its impressive lineup of superstar entertainment. From its opening in December 1979, until its sale in 1986, the Atlantic City property dominated the market in revenues and profits in spite of its smaller size.

In 1987, Mr. Wynn sold the Atlantic City Golden Nugget, which had cost \$160 million, to Bally for \$450 million and turned his creativity to developing what would become the company’s flagship property—The Mirage. Opened in November 1989, the elegant hotel, with its imaginative erupting volcano and S...

Stephen Wynn

Speech Topics

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