



**YOUR NEXT MOVE**  
GRAND CHESS TOUR

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CHESS  
TOUR™**

## **WORLD'S TOP CHESS PLAYERS BATTLE IT OUT IN 5-DAY TOURNAMENT IN LEUVEN (BELGIUM)**

*Second edition of Your Next Move Grand Chess Tour to be held in June 2017,  
with Magnus Carlsen, Viswanathan Anand, Vladimir Kramnik,  
Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, Wesley So, Ian Nepomniachtchi, Levon Aronian,  
Anish Giri, Vassily Ivanchuk and Baadur Jobava!*

**Leuven, Belgium – 22 May 2017** – After the success of the first edition held in 2016, the Your Next Move Grand Chess Tour chess tournament will again take place in the historical City Hall of Leuven from **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**.

The best chess players in the world will compete, including reigning World Champion Magnus Carlsen (Norway), former World Champions Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) and Viswanathan Anand (India), and the 2016 GCT winner Wesley So (USA).

The tournament forms part of the [2017 Grand Chess Tour](#), a series of 5 global chess events organized in some of the leading cities in the world. The prize money for the 2017 tournament in Leuven totals US\$ 150.000.

The players will compete in both Rapid and Blitz chess during the 5-day event with each player taking part in a total of 27 individual games. Both formats are much faster than the classical chess often seen in traditional chess tournaments. Rapid games typically last less than one hour while Blitz chess is even faster with both players having less than 5 minutes each to complete all their moves.

Chess fans can enjoy the experience of seeing the greatest players competing live in Leuven or they can watch the games on streaming broadcasts, complete with grandmaster commentary. In 2016, more than 1,500 chess fans attended the event in person while the online broadcast reached more than 300,000 chess enthusiasts.

This year's event will see well known British GM Nigel Short hosting the live commentary at the tournament venue. He will be joined by GM Maurice Ashley from the USA with the pair also featuring as part of the live broadcast production. A separate Spanish commentary stream will also be broadcast this year to cater for the rapidly increasing Spanish chess audience.

The 2017 event will further be boosted by with the addition of a travelling exhibition from the [World Chess Hall of Fame](#) (WCHOF) in St Louis, USA. This exhibition will be installed in the City Hall of Leuven for the full 5-day duration of the tournament and will feature legendary items from chess history from the WCHOF collection. Art and artifacts that will be on display include Yoko Ono's *Play it by Trust* (2002), the Hamilton-Russell Cup, and Bobby Fischer's copy of *Weltgeschichte des Schachs Lieferung 27, Boris Spassky:355 Partien* (also known as the "red book"), featuring handwritten notes from Fischer's preparations for the 1972 World Chess Championship.

Spectators who wish to attend the tournament in person are required can register for tickets via the official tournament site at <http://grandchesstour.org/YourNextMove>. **Registration will open on Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>, at 8 PM CET** and tickets will be allocated on a first come basis. The tournament venue can accommodate approximately 300 spectators per day so chess fans are encouraged to apply as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

For more information and for registrations, visit <http://grandchesstour.org/YourNextMove>

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## ABOUT

### Your Next Move

Your Next Move, a non-profit organization and the organizer of this event, promotes chess as an educational tool for children and youngsters in Belgium. By playing chess, children and youngsters learn to analyze and assess difficult situations, to act fast and to act under pressure. Chess enables them to learn to think in a creative and strategic way. Those same qualities will prove to be indispensable in life which increasingly becomes more complex, more global, where evolutions become revolutions and communication channels multiply all the time.

### The Grand Chess Tour

Your Next Move Grand Chess Tour is part of "The Grand Chess Tour", a series of major international chess tournaments that will be held throughout the 2017 calendar year. The 2017 Grand Chess Tour offers an overall prize pool totaling US\$ 1.2 Million and includes tournaments in the USA, France, Belgium and the UK. The Grand Chess Tour was created with one goal in mind: To create a circuit of international events, each demonstrating the highest level of organization, for the world's best players. The legendary Garry Kasparov, one of the world's greatest ambassadors for chess, inspired the Grand Chess Tour and helped solidify the partnership between the organizers. More information: [www.grandchesstour.org](http://www.grandchesstour.org)

## MEDIA CONTACT

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