

FREE DOWNLOAD · JURISDICTION GUIDE

Gambling License Jurisdiction Shortlist

A quick comparison guide for casino, sportsbook, and iGaming founders. Compare popular gambling license jurisdictions by business fit, market access, compliance level, and launch readiness.

Choosing the right gambling license depends on your target market, product type, budget, launch timeline, and compliance readiness. This shortlist helps casino, sportsbook, and iGaming founders compare common licensing routes before starting legal setup or platform certification.

THIS GUIDE COVERS

Curaçao

Malta

UKGC

Panama

Isle of Man

Kahnawake

USA

Brazil

Philippines

Before choosing a jurisdiction, confirm:

01

Target markets

Where do you plan to accept or market to players?

03

Operating model

B2C operator, B2B software supplier, white-label route, or local market approval?

05

Platform readiness

Do you have AML/KYC, responsible gambling tools, RNG certification support, and reporting flows in place?

02

Product type

Casino, sportsbook, poker, lottery, fantasy, software supply, or white-label brand?

04

Budget range

Can your first-year budget support legal setup, audits, certification, and compliance?

06

Launch timeline

Do you need a faster offshore route or a stronger regulated-market license?

IMPORTANT NOTE

This shortlist is for planning only. Gambling laws, regulator rules, costs, taxes, and approval timelines can change. Always verify the latest requirements with a qualified gambling lawyer before applying. Curaçao now uses a direct licensing route through its official portal, while the UKGC, MGA, Isle of Man GSC, Kahnawake Gaming Commission, Panama MEF/Junta de Control de Juegos, Brazil SPA-MF, and PAGCOR each follow separate regulatory frameworks.

JURISDICTION	BEST FOR	TIMELINE	COST	REPUTATION	KEY NOTES
Curaçao	Early-stage global casino or sportsbook launch	Medium	Medium	Medium	Suitable for operators and suppliers under the newer direct licensing framework. Check restricted markets before launch.
Malta	EU/EEA-focused iGaming operators	Med-Long	High	High	Stronger regulatory credibility, useful for serious EU-facing businesses. Requires stronger compliance setup.
UKGC	Operators targeting Great Britain	Long	Very High	Very High	Required for online casino products targeting Great Britain. Strong compliance, player protection, and technical standards.
Panama	Offshore online gaming operations	Medium	Medium	Medium	Can be considered for broader international models, but banking and target-market acceptance should be checked early.
Isle of Man	Premium global iGaming operators	Med-Long	High	High	Strong reputation and regulatory oversight. Better suited for businesses with stronger budgets and compliance planning.
Kahnawake	Online gaming operators and software-related models	Medium	Medium	Medium	Offers interactive gaming permissions and provider authorizations. Good to assess for North America-linked structures.
USA	State-specific casino or sportsbook approval	Very Long	Very High	Very High	Licensing is state-level (e.g., NJ, PA each have own bodies). Operators often need approval per state plus local partnerships.
Brazil	Brazil-facing fixed-odds betting & permitted online products	Med-Long	High	Emerging	Brazil moved into a regulated betting framework from 2025. Product scope and approval status should be checked carefully.
Philippines	Philippines-regulated gaming or local market models	Confirm	High	Changing	PAGCOR regulates gaming, but offshore rules changed after the 2024 POGO shutdown. Verify current offshore restrictions first.

NEXT STEP

Need help choosing the right gambling license?

SDLC Corp can help you assess jurisdiction fit, platform readiness, AML/KYC flows, RNG certification support, responsible gambling tools, and technical compliance documentation.

Get a Licensing Readiness Review →