



# The Exciting Journey of EuroMillions

**E**uroMillions was launched by France, Spain, and UK National Lottery on February 7, 2004. Eight other countries joined later that year, on October 8, 2004: Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal Switzerland. Draws take place on Tuesday and Friday evenings with a minimum guaranteed jackpot of €17 million, which can roll over up to the cap of €190 million. SLE (Services aux Loteries en Europe) administers the operation of EuroMillions at the direction of the EuroMillions member lotteries.

An interesting feature of EuroMillions is how each jurisdiction can customize the game to make it special and unique to its own players. Following are some of the ways that each Lottery spices up its own offer of EuroMillions:

**Österreichische Lotterien (Austria)** runs a game called ÖsterreichBonus, which is included in the ticket price (€2.50) and has the longest claim period (three years) of any participating country. You can also play Joker for a small additional fee, where you will be given six digits from 0 to 9 and can win prizes for matching the numbers in the same order they are drawn.

The **Belgian National Lottery** runs a game called My Bonus for all its EuroMillions players, which is included in the cost of a €2.50 ticket. You receive a raffle code for every line you purchase, and there are hundreds of winning codes drawn in every game. The standard prize is €500 per winner.

**Française des Jeux:** One French player is guaranteed to win €1 million in every draw thanks to the supplementary My Million game. You receive one free entry into My Million with every line of

EuroMillions numbers, with the cost of a single play set at €2.50. You can also add Etoile+ to your ticket for a small extra fee, giving you extra ways to win and boosting the value of non-jackpot prizes.

**Premier Lotteries Ireland:** You can play EuroMillions for €2.50 in Ireland, and you will be entered into the Ireland Only Raffle when you buy your ticket. There are ten winners of €5,000 in the Ireland Only Raffle in each game, and from time to time special draws take place to offer a guaranteed prize of €1 million. If you opt to play EuroMillions Plus, your five main EuroMillions numbers will be entered into extra draws for the chance to win prizes of up to €500,000.

**National Lottery of Luxembourg** operates in the smallest participating nation and had to wait the longest to celebrate its first jackpot win, when one lucky player landed €65.7 million in September 2013. Despite its tiny population, Luxembourg still produced three of the 25 winners in the inaugural European Millionaire Maker on 28th October 2016. It costs €2.50 per line to play EuroMillions in Luxembourg and you will automatically be entered into the Extra Lux draw, while you can also pay an additional fee to take part in Joker.

**Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa:** Every time you buy a line of EuroMillions numbers in Portugal you will receive a unique raffle code for the weekly M1lhão draw, which is all included in the cost of a €2.50 ticket. One winning M1lhão code will be randomly selected on the Friday evening and if you have the matching ticket you win €1 million.

**Loterias y Apuestas del Estado Spain:** You pay €2.50 per line in Spain, and every time

you play you also receive a free entry into the El Millón game. You will see a unique El Millón raffle code on your ticket, and if that is selected as the winning code for the draw you have entered, you win €1 million.

**Switzerland** offers two supplementary games alongside EuroMillions. If you opt to play 2 Chance, your five main numbers will be entered into a second draw for the chance to win up to CHF 150,000. In Super-Star, you will be given a five-digit code and must match all of them to win a jackpot of CHF 250,000. The cost of a EuroMillions ticket is CHF3.50.

The **UK National Lottery** has had some of the biggest winners in the history of EuroMillions. The UK Millionaire Maker is a supplementary game in which you can win up to £1 million if the unique raffle code on your ticket matches the winning code selected on the night of every EuroMillions draw. You are automatically entered into the Millionaire Maker raffle if you buy a line of EuroMillions numbers in the UK.

**Andrew Pilkington**, General Secretary of SLE, joined Camelot in the UK in 2000, coming from a background in manufacturing and printing. He was on the scratch card logistics side of the business, which involved frequently meeting with Scientific Games in Alpharetta to sign off on all the press runs. He had been at Camelot for just over three years when the position of operations manager for the newly formed group launching a multi-national game was posted internally at Camelot. Everything was put into place within four months for the first drawing to be held in February of 2004. Andrew has served as served as General Secretary of SLE since 2005. 