



SKY RIVER CASINO BREAKS GROUND ON UPSCALE HOTEL RESORT DESTINATION

The expansion is expected to create new employment opportunities across hospitality and guest service roles as the property evolves

ELK GROVE, Calif. (May 4, 2026) — On April 27, Sky River Casino marked a major milestone in its ongoing expansion with a golden shovel groundbreaking ceremony for its highly anticipated hotel resort.

Guests were welcomed through a visually immersive experience designed to preview components of the future resort. A red-carpeted walkway framed by black velvet ropes guided attendees toward the event stage, where architectural renderings of the upscale hotel resort and historical milestones from Wilton Rancheria and Sky River Casino’s history offered a sensory glimpse into the property’s evolution.

The ceremony brought together Wilton Rancheria leadership and citizens, Sky River Casino executives, and regional dignitaries—officially signaling the start of construction on the hotel resort. The soil used during the ceremony was uncovered from Wilton Rancheria’s land on which the casino operates, symbolizing the Tribe’s sovereignty and federal recognition while honoring their ancestral roots.

“Every element of this hotel is being shaped with intention,” said Michael J. Facenda, President and General Manager of Sky River Casino. “This next chapter is centered on hospitality that delivers an upscale, energetic, and international experience that awakens the senses. Once complete, the hotel will create new jobs and pathways for employment that help move the community forward.”

Owned and operated by Wilton Rancheria, the hotel resort represents a meaningful investment in the Tribe’s long-term vision—supporting community, creating opportunity, and honoring the Tribe’s enduring cultural values.

“Before we broke ground on Sky River, we made a promise to our Tribal citizens, to the community, and to the future,” said Chairman Jesus Tarango of Wilton Rancheria. “Today, we renew that promise, and we go further. Because we are not developers chasing an opportunity, we are a people reclaiming what is ours, and building something that will provide, sustain, and uplift the entire region for generations.”

When the resort opens, Sky River will transform into a premier destination that appeals to both local guests and travelers seeking a sophisticated, international-style escape. The expansion will also create new employment opportunities across a wide range of hospitality and guest service areas.

Together, these roles and amenities will support the property's evolution into a full-service resort destination, providing new career pathways and contributing to the region's growing hospitality industry.

Planned Resort Amenities Include:

- 300-finely appointed hotel rooms, positioned next to a glass atrium featuring a bright, botanical environment
- A luxury day spa designed for a restorative wellness experience
- A Vegas-style outdoor pool offering a resort-level leisure atmosphere
- A 30,000-square-foot multi-use event and entertainment space for conferences, versatile performances, and large-scale events
- A premier High Limit and VIP slot gaming area
- Expanded food and beverage experiences, including a lobby lounge, restaurant, and coffee bar

Together, the groundbreaking ceremony and its accompanying symbols signaled a bold step forward—celebrating Sky River Casino's growth while looking ahead to a resort destination that will redefine hospitality in the region.

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Sky River Casino

Sky River Casino was built by Wilton Rancheria in partnership with Boyd Gaming Corporation, which is managing the property for the Tribe. The casino opened in August 2022 and includes 120,000 ft² of gaming, 2,500 slot machines, 81 table games, and 18 elevated restaurants, bars, and lounge destinations along with a 1,600-space multi-story parking structure. Future additions will include a 300-room state-of-the-art hotel, a second valet service area with a new porte cochère, day spa and salon, outdoor pool, and a 30,000 ft² multi-use event and entertainment space. To learn more about the casino and/or future expansion plans currently underway, please visit www.SkyRiver.com.

Wilton Rancheria

Wilton Rancheria is Sacramento County's only federally recognized Tribe, with more than 1,000 citizens, primarily of Miwok and Nisenan descent. Known as California's Capital Tribe, Wilton Rancheria has established itself as a leader in sustainable development, cultural preservation, and community partnership. The Tribe operates Sky River Casino, holds majority ownership of Sacramento Republic FC, and continues expanding its influence in regional economic development.

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