

# The Olympic Peninsula

The Olympic Peninsula has millions of visitors each year from all parts of the globe as the reputation as a scenic wonderland is well known around the world. Here's a look at some of the public golf courses around the peninsula:

## Lake Cushman Golf Course



Lake Cushman Golf Course sits on the edge of the Olympic National Park, high above the Hood Canal community of Hoodsport. The course and surroundings are truly a walk in the park – or a ride if you choose – where wildlife sighting is common. This well-maintained nine-hole course has separate tees to make a par 72. It is popular among locals as well as with campers and vacationers. The natural forested setting produces a calming atmosphere for relaxing rounds of golf. The course is challenging yet playable for all levels of golfers. There is also a driving range and practice putting green at the course. Hot dogs and snacks are available at the pro shop.

## Sunland Golf and Country Club



Sunland Golf and Country Club is located two miles north of scenic Sequim, Washington. It is considered one of the premier semi-private golf clubs on the Olympic Peninsula. The course was designed in 1963 by the famous **A.V. Macan** who passed away after completing the design. Mr. Macan created some of the best courses in the Northwest such as Marine Drive, Royal Colwood, Victoria Golf Club, Shaughnessy, Capilano, Fircrest, Inglewood, Overlake and many more. Our championship course, which has played host to numerous state regional and local tournaments, is challenging, yet offers a highly enjoyable golfing experience with several tee options to accommodate golfers of all abilities. Sunland has weekend public tee times available for the public.

## Salish Cliffs



When Salish Cliffs opened for public play in 2011, it was obvious that this amenity of the Little Creek Casino and Squaxin Island tribe was something special, The Gene Bates-designed course won several awards in its first year, including being named one of the top new courses for 2011.

At 7,269 yards the course offers everything from ponds to sand traps to wetlands to the elevation changes, Salish Cliffs is a place that is a golfing treat with some stunning Pacific NW views and some challenging holes along the way. And don't forget about the casino, hotel and convention center which sit right next door to the golf course.

## Discovery Bay



Discovery Bay Golf Club sits on a secluded 200-acre point above Discovery Bay, just outside the city of Port Townsend, Washington. Formally known as Chevy Chase, the second nine was designed by Mike Asmundson. The two nines are vastly different; the original nine is contained in the lowlands while the newest nine has some elevation changes as it works itself from the hill top to the lower level. The course plays sneaky hard.

Recent ownership change has provided some must needed funds that have resulted in course improvements – new maintenance equipment has been added as well as drainage problems have been addressed. New tees are being built and the overall condition of the course has been improved.

## LakeLand Village

Lakeland Village, located in Allyn, Washington, offers 27 holes of golf with three different nines.

With numerous ponds, gaping bunkers and majestic views of the Olympics and Mount Rainier, ardent golfers will appreciate the scenic driving ranges, practice chipping, bunker areas and the well-groomed putting greens.

In addition to a gourmet restaurant, cafe and espresso bar, the clubhouse also provides banquet facilities. Public play is also welcome at the course, so anyone can come out and enjoy the golf as well as the all the other amenities.

## SkyRidge Golf Course



SkyRidge Golf Course and Golf Learning Center located in Sequim promotes golf carts 365 days a year. Don't be mislead though, the course is flat and easy to walk. Always in pristine condition, SkyRidge has four sets of tees and will test golfers of all levels as well as offer many variations of each hole.

Measuring 3,405 yards from the back tees, the most unique feature of SkyRidge perhaps is the extra hole. The nine-hole links-style golf course features a separate 18th hole. Playing 445 yards to a small green, this par-4 will test your game.

Owner Jeff Pedersen has created a new set of back tee boxes giving the course an 18-hole feel. A new clubhouse with a large deck has also opened, giving golfers a place to gather and relax after their round.

## Oaksridge Golf Course



Oaksridge Golf Course sits just off Highway 12 in Elma and is visible from the freeway. The 18-hole track measures 5,643 yards and is a local favorite after opening in 1926.

The course is relatively level so it makes a perfect walking course. Just be advised, the prevailing winds can lengthen it considerably. Owner Rich Walker has put in endless hours to keep the course in good shape—and his work has paid off.

## The Cedars at Dungeness

The Olympic Mountains deflect the rain clouds making the Cedars at Dungeness one of the driest courses in Western Washington - an average of 13-15 inches of rain per year. With an 18-hole layout measuring over 6,400 yards, Dungeness is protected by sprawling bunkers and narrow approaches to elevated greens. The signature hole is the par-5 3rd with a series of bunkers in the shape of a Dungeness crab. Even the sand in this hazard is red.

## The Home Course

A golf course in DuPont, Wash. existed for a few years before the PNGA came in, bought it and called it the Home Course. And what a place it is. The Mike Asmundson-designed course is user-friendly, but at the same time can be a monster if you choose to walk to the back tee boxes called Dynamite Tees and play the 7,400 yards.

The PNGA has its headquarters at the course and hosts several championships there throughout the year.

This year the course is celebrating its fifth year anniversary.

The Home Course will host the final U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links tournament this year as the USGA has announced the retirement of the event after 2014 – the event will take place July 14-19th.

The Home Course is also the home for the Pacific Lutheran University golf team.

## Tumwater Valley



Tumwater Valley is known for many things, like its great condition, proximity to Interstate-5, reputation for hosting big tournaments – and a couple of par-3 holes that have two greens.

Tumwater Valley can offer some variety with its par-3 holes. One day, giving them a shorter look, another a longer look with trouble off the tee. The course always is in top shape throughout the year.

And its practice area is like nothing in the area - with a huge grass tee hitting area and a short game practice area.

## Highland Golf Course

Highland Golf Course originally opened as a nine-hole venue in 1930. Then, you only had to walk up half as many up and down holes. Now an 18-hole facility, double your ups and downs on this challenging, hilly offering. There are not many flat lies, which makes it even more challenging and the greens are tough, too.

## Ocean Shores Golf Course

Ocean Shores Golf Course has a course worth the trip to the beach, and one of the few courses that sits near the Pacific Ocean. A new driving range has made the experience even better and the course has joined up with the Quinalt Beach Resort for some terrific stay and play packages.

Operator Curt Zander has made several quality changes to the course, including the new driving range. A new irrigation system on the front side has helped the course green up. Zander has been in charge since 1993.

## Lake Limerick Golf Club

Lake Limerick just outside of Shelton, features a challenging course surrounded by a development, where the houses are far from the fairways. The course is tight and that is what makes it fun. There are several sets of tees giving the course a new look.

The course has made some new changes, including removing some trees for better shots.

The course has two sets of tees and plays to 5,864 yards and the holes are surrounded by tall fir trees, giving you plenty different shots around the golf course.

## Airport Golf Center



Airport Golf is the kind of place that golfers like. There are plenty of places to practice and if you get bored, there's a nifty little nine-hole course waiting for you to tee it up next to the Olympia Airport. Airport Golf also features batting cages, in case you bring your baseball or softball bat to the golf course. Airport Golf has plenty of room for practice, including its covered driving range, putting greens and more.

The big change at Airport Golf Center will be to the greens on the 9-hole course. They were all torn up and re-seeded. They are all expected to open in the middle of May giving the course a new look with some terrific new greens.

There is also a fully stocked pro shop available to handle any golfing needs before or after a practice session or round on the course.

## Alderbrook Golf Club

Alderbrook Golf Club is set in a classic Northwest wooded setting in Union, Washington. With a well-maintained and challenging golf course, Alderbrook should be on everyone's list must-play courses.

The most talked about hole is the 8th, a double dog leg par 5 that stretches to 536 yards. Playing to 6,326 yards from the back tees, Alderbrook's finishing hole is one of the best in the Northwest - the dog-leg right fairway plays down a long hill to a recently renovated green guarded by a newly extended pond, making this difficult hole even more of a challenge.

## Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie



If you are looking for a variety of golf in the same place, the Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie is your place. The Woodlands Course is a test through the trees while the Links Course offers a more open style of course. Both courses offer separate practice facilities.

It's the perfect place to spend the day and play 36 holes on two different types of golf courses. Both courses offer the chance to use every club in your bag and will present two very different rounds of golf.

## Port Ludlow Resort

Port Ludlow was named as one of the top five public courses in Washington by *Golf Magazine*. Its 18 holes are divided into two 9-hole courses named Tide and Timber. Each features scenic views, dense forests and natural surroundings.

A short ferry ride from Edmonds and a 20 mile drive from the Kingston ferry dock, Port Ludlow offers the perfect get-away not only for golfers, but for anyone looking to take a break from the city.

With a quaint inn, restaurant, spa and full service marina, the resort offers something for everyone.

## Eagles Pride at Fort Lewis

If you have driven up and down Interstate-5 south of Tacoma and north of Olympia, you have no doubt noticed the golf course to the west. That would be Eagle's Pride at Fort Lewis, a military gem of a course and a course that years ago opened its doors to the public.

Eagles Pride features 27 holes of golf to try with its green, blue and red courses. It is a course that offers just about everything you would expect from Pacific Northwest golf with tall trees, sand, water hazards and a major freeway to the east. By the way, a ball hit onto I-5 is out of bounds.

While Eagles Pride is open to the public, Whispering Firs is only open to active duty personnel, retired military, reservists, DoD employees working at JBLM, retired DoD civilians, and their respective dependents.