



Pacific Northwest tribes have award-winning courses

There are plenty of choices when it comes to playing golf courses owned by Pacific Northwest Indian Tribes - like the Circling Raven in Worley, ID. (right). For more see inside this section.



Central Oregon Golf Tour: No shortage of great golf

Central Oregon has always been a hot spot for golf destinations and that trend just keeps on going. From the public courses to the resorts, there is no shortage of quality golf. See inside for more.



Central Oregon: So much to do on and off the golf course

Central Oregon is a premier vacation destination offering a diverse array of recreational activities and natural attractions. There are world-class golf resorts like Black Butte Ranch Resort (pictured left), and outdoor activities like hiking, fishing, river rafting, horseback riding, brewery tours and more. Central Oregon area is a place that has it all, including lots of sunshine. For more on the area, please see inside this section of *Inside Golf Newspaper*.

Tribal ownership reshaping golf

Indian Tribes from around the Pacific Northwest are making a big impact on the regional golfing landscape. Pacific Northwest Tribes have bought existing golf courses or created their own world-class courses at places like Loomis Trail in Blaine, Wash. (right) and Wildhorse Resort in Pendleton, Ore. (bottom). Tribal-owned courses typically are above average facilities and give golfers an exceptional experience. For more, please see inside this special section of *Inside Golf Newspaper*.





Loomis Trail is owned by Lummi Nation.

Pacific Northwest Tribes and their courses

Washington

- **Cedar Irons:** Course in Tacoma is owned by the Puyallup Indian Tribe, which owns the Emerald Queen Casino.
- **Kalispel Golf & Country Club:** Course in Spokane is owned by the Kalispel Indian Tribe, which also owns the Northern Quest Resort.
- **Loomis Trail:** Course is now owned by the Lummi Nation Indian Tribe which also owns the Silver Reef Resort.
- **Oaksridge:** Course in Elma is owned by the Chehalis Indian Tribe, which owns the Lucky Eagle Casino.
- **Salish Cliffs:** Golf course is owned by the Squaxin Island Tribe and is located in Shelton and owns the Little Creek Casino.
- **Swinomish Golf Link:** Course in Anacortes is owned by Swinomish Indian Tribe which also runs the Swinomish Casino and Lodge.
- **Red Wolf Golf Club:** Former Clarkston Golf and Country Club course was bought by the Nez Pearce Tribe and re-named Red Wolf Golf Club.
- **The Cedars at Dungeness:** Course in Sequim is owned by the Jamestown Skallam Tribe. They also own the nearby 7 Cedars Casino.

Oregon

- **Chinook Winds:** Course in Lincoln City used to be called Lakeside. Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians bought the course and changed the name to go with its nearby casino.
- **Ocean Dunes:** Course in Florence is owned and operated by the Coos, Umpqua and Siuslaw Indian Tribes. Tribes also own and operate the Three Rivers Casino with casinos in Coos Bay and Florence.
- **Golf Course at Birch Creek:** Recently bought by the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla, owners of Wildhorse Resort. Formerly called Pendleton Country Club.
- **Wildhorse:** The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla created the Wildhorse Golf Course and Casino in Pendleton. Resort hosts an LPGA Epson Tour event

Idaho

- **Circling Raven:** The Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe owns Circling Raven and Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort in Worley, Idaho.



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Tribal golf courses have surged in popularity-as they offer a unique blend of cultural richness, top-tier design, and resort-style amenities that make them stand out in the golfing landscape.

Many tribal courses have been designed by renowned architects and are maintained to high standards, often funded by casino revenues.

Courses like Salish Cliffs and Circling Raven are consistently ranked among the best in their regions. Tribal courses are frequently part of larger resort complexes, including casinos, hotels, spas, and fine dining. This makes them ideal for stay-and-play getaways, appealing to both serious golfers and casual vacationers. When a tribe buys a golf course, it's often more than just a real estate transaction—it's a strategic move that can blend economic development, cultural stewardship, and community revitalization.

Tribes frequently invest heavily in upgrades, including new irrigation systems, bunker renovations, and clubhouse remodels.

For example, the Nez Perce Tribe invested over \$1 million into Red Wolf Golf Club in Washington, improving cart paths, sand traps, and maintenance equipment.



The Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe has one of the Pacific Northwest's top courses in Circling Raven.

Puyallup Tribe makes a splash with its new Cedar Irons course



The Puyallup Tribe changed the name from North Shore to Cedar Irons and remodeled too.

Cedar Irons Golf Club, formerly known as North Shore, began a new era for Tacoma public golf with a fully renovated historic course managed and operated by Columbia Hospitality. All 18 holes of the 6,109-yard, par-72 championship course opened in May following a nearly two-year, \$7.5 million project led by acclaimed Pacific Northwest golf course architect Dan Hixson.

Owned by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the new Cedar Irons had undergone significant upgrades, including a much-needed, state-of-the-art irrigation system and a more open, strategic, and playable layout that revitalizes a beloved Tacoma golf course while catering to golfers of all abilities.

The project began in November 2024. The renovated back nine reopened to the public in 2025; the front nine renovation was completed in April.

The former irrigation system was more than 40 years old. Meanwhile, the course had gradually become crowded with vegetation, narrowing the fairways and reducing playability. Hixson's renovation reestablishes clear playing corridors, opens views across

the property, and restores the course's natural flow.

The course follows a similar routing to the original. But the renovation focused on improving playability while enhancing architectural character. Tee boxes have been revitalized and expanded, fairways have been widened to encourage creativity off the tee, every bunker has been completely rebuilt, and all 18 green complexes have been either reconstructed or recontoured and refined. Tree removal and selective pruning have restored natural sightlines and improved turf conditions by allowing more sunlight and airflow across the course.

The renovation also features several redesigned holes.

That includes the 17th hole, which had been reworked from a par 3 to a par 4, stretching the back nine from a par 35 to a par 36. The front nine features completely rebuilt greens on holes 1, 2, 3, and 6. Hole No. 2, once a 347-yard par 4, was stretched to more than 400 yards. The par-5 third hole was shortened to a par 4, and the fifth hole was converted from a par 4 to a par 5.

Tribal golf in Washington

The last few years have been busy ones for Washington tribes: Here is a quick look at what Washington tribes have done with the golf business in the state.

• **The Nez Pearce Tribe bought the Clarkston Golf and Country Club** and re-named it Red Wolf Golf Club. The tribe owns The Clearwater River Casino & Lodge, in Lewiston, Idaho, a 15-minute drive away. The 18-hole course is a lush greenbelt that sits beside the Snake River in Clarkston, Wash. and is open to the public. Several big tournaments have been held here, including two Pac-12 championships and several PPGA championships. It plays to 6,700 yards from the back tees.

• **Loomis Trail in Ferndale was bought by the Lummi Nation Tribe** in October of 2018. While the course has always been in great condition, no changes are expected. The clubhouse grill has been remodeled to create a sports bar feel. Being affiliated with the Silver Reef Casino provides several stay and play options to guests. There are also 15 rooms at the golf course that are available, a shuttle is available between the course and the casino. The Silver Reef has 10 dining options from The Steak House to The Cantina Bar.

• **White Horse Golf Club is owned by the Suquamish Indian Tribe** which operates the Clearwater Casino Resort located between Poulsbo and Bainbridge Island. The course was recognized by *Golf Digest* as one of the top 10 new public golf courses in 2010.

• **Oaksridge Golf Course was bought by the Chehalis Indian Tribe** in 2019 and the golf course gives the tribe a new amenity to go along with its Lucky Eagle Casino. The Tribe recently announced that they were planning to close the course. No reason was given.

• **Salish Cliffs Golf Club is owned by the Squaxin Island Tribe** and located in Shelton. The best description for the golf course is stunning. It is world-class golf that plays to 7,269 yards from the tips or as short as 5,313 yards from the forward tees – 5 sets of tees to choose from. Bentgrass fairways

and greens and total privacy on 16 of the 18 holes that are encircled in lush forestry. Carts are required as the course covers over 300 acres with several long distances between holes and frequent elevation changes. The cedar log clubhouse has a full service restaurant. The adjacent Little Creek Casino Resort is a perfect get away with spacious rooms, the Seven Inlets Spa, and RV Park.

• **The Puyallup Tribe of Indians also entered into the golf business by buying North Shore Golf Course in Tacoma.** They changed the name to **Cedar Irons**. It is the perfect amenity to go with its Emerald Queen casino in Tacoma. The tribe invested in a major re-model for all 18 holes in addition to the name change of the golf course. Changes like a new pro shop and practice area have given Cedar Irons a new look.

• **The Jamestown S’Kallam Tribe** bought Dungeness Golf Club and changed the name to The Cedars at Dungeness and started making significant improvements to the entrance and the grounds around the clubhouse. The course has been manicured to resort standards.

• **The Swinomish Indian Tribe** bought Similk Golf Course in Anacortes in 2013 and changed the name to Swinomish Golf Links. The Swinomish Casino and Lodge comes complete with a hotel, casino and terrific RV park overlooking the water. There are plenty of restaurant choices as well as other amenities to go with this terrific property.

• **The Kalispel Tribe of Indians purchased Kalispel Golf and Country Club in 2015.** The course is private, but there is still opportunity for the public to play via the many charity events held each year or through the Northern Quest Resort Stay and Play Packages. The Club and PGA professional staff are heavily involved with local junior golf, introducing Spokane youth to the game and aligning with the community and child focused philanthropic goals of the Tribe. This historic course is located in North Spokane along the Little Spokane River. The inaugural U.S. Women’s Open was hosted there and the updated course is kept in pristine condition.



The Nez Perce Tribe bought the former Clarkston Golf and Country Club and transformed it into Red Wolf (top); The Suquamish Indian Tribe bought White Horse Golf Club in Kingston, Wash. (bottom).

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Tribal courses of Oregon

Here is a look at tribal-owned golf courses and resorts in the state of Oregon.

• **Wildhorse Resort and Casino** in Pendleton has a new clubhouse and pro shop at the golf course. The new clubhouse includes a large banquet room, a bar and a covered patio for guests to enjoy. The clubhouse also features a conference room for small meetings and intimate events. A larger room is available for staff or officials to gather and compile scores for tournaments.

The outdoor pavilion has been moved east of the clubhouse and provides a large shaded for events and tournament meals. The Wildhorse Casino Resort has one of the biggest and best RV parks with all of the services you would expect in an up-scale facility.

The casino has a 10-story hotel where guests have free access to the fitness center and business center, or relax in the indoor pool, sauna and hot tub. There is also five-screen Cineplex in the casino. The tribe also purchased the Pendleton Country Club, which is now called the Golf Course at Birch Creek and open to the public.

• **Ocean Dunes Golf Links** is located in Florence, Oregon, situated in a stretch of dunes that covers about 40 miles of Oregon coastline, making it one of the most unique golfing experiences in the Northwest.

A true links course with fairways that wander over, around, and through dunes bordered by gorse, heather, shore pins and sea grasses. Narrow fairways and smallish greens will challenge every golfer's game.

If you are planning a trip down the Oregon Coast, this course should be on your must-play list. As with any true links, the course is extremely well drained and playable - even under the wettest conditions – year round. The mild coastal climate in Florence is not too hot

in summer and not too cold in winter. Ocean Dunes is owned by the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians who also own the Three Rivers Casino Resort. The casino is located at the south end of the golf course and has 90 oversized deluxe rooms and suites to choose from. With 5 restaurants, daily entertainment and countless amenities, guests will want to check out their stay and play packages on their website.

• **Chinook Winds** in Lincoln City used to be called Lakeside GC and was bought by the Confederated tribes of Siletz Indians. The 18-hole course plays to 4,547 yards. The course includes a pro shop, the only indoor driving range on the Oregon Coast, fitness center, Aces Sports Bar & Grill and meeting rooms. The resort offers 243 rooms including 160 oceanfront rooms; 61 of them fireplace suites.



Wildhorse in Pendleton, Ore. has a 10-story hotel, a full-service RV Park and two championship courses.



The Coos, Umpqua and Siuslaw Pacific Northwest Tribes bought Ocean Dunes Golf Course in Florence, Ore. to go with their Three Rivers Casino Resort.





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Golf Course at Birch Creek is a Wildhorse amenity

Just south of Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Eastern Oregon sits a local golf favorite, formerly known as Pendleton Country Club. Acquired by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) in 2019 and quickly re-established as the Golf Course at Birch Creek, the 248-acre course has been a staple of the local golf community since 1957.

Set amid gentle rolling wheat fields and divided by Birch Creek, a tributary of the Umatilla River, the 18-hole, par-72 course plays from 6,100 to 6,394 yards and offers scenic views with frequent sightings of native fish and roaming deer.

During the Treaty of 1855, Birch Creek served as a landmark that defined a portion of the border between the new Indian reservation and the lands claimed by the government, and this course lies near the site of one of the

historic encampments of the Cayuse Indians. Bringing the land and operations back into tribal ownership presents an opportunity to preserve valuable local resources while growing the game of golf.

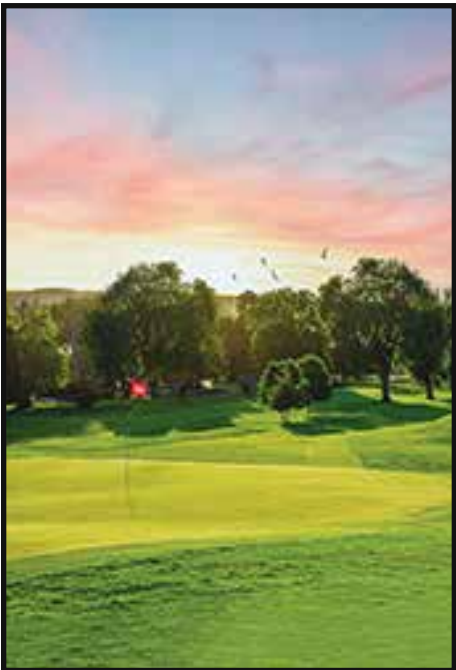
So, what will golfers notice when they visit the Golf Course at Birch Creek for the first time or even their 100th round?

The most immediate improvement is impossible to miss: a newly paved network of golf cart paths winding throughout the course. Replacing 40 to 50 years of gravel driving surfaces became a top priority, creating a smoother, more comfortable ride for golfers and enhancing the overall playing experience. More than half of the cart path network has been repaved, with the goal of completing the entire course by late summer 2026. Three par-three holes got new tee boxes. The project included removing the

existing turf before laser grading the surface to create a level foundation. Once leveled, the tee boxes were seeded and grown in, in time for the summer season.

Golfers will also notice faster putting surfaces. Through consistent maintenance, the course crew focused on an aerification program to remove excess organic matter, relieve soil compaction, and allow air, water, and nutrients to reach the roots. The result is healthier turf and firmer, smoother greens that putt faster and more consistently.

Ask a landscaper, an arborist, or an avid golfer, and they'll all tell you the same thing: proper tree maintenance is a long-term investment. Course crews continue to prune and manage healthy trees while also maintaining shrubs and other vegetation to improve the course's appearance, playability, and overall health.



Golf Course at Birch Creek.

Wildhorse Resort continues to be a hot spot for the Epson Tour

Wildhorse Resort & Casino announced the return of the fifth annual Wildhorse Ladies Golf Classic, part of the Epson Tour, the official qualifying tour of the LPGA, to Pendleton, Oregon, Aug. 21-23, 2026. The only tournament of its kind in the Pacific Northwest, the event attracts top women golfers from around the world competing for one of 15 LPGA Tour membership cards for the 2027 season.

"In our fifth year of hosting and welcoming Epson Tour athletes to our tribal lands, our employees and sponsors look forward to making this our best edition of the Wildhorse Ladies Golf Classic," said Gary E. George, CEO of Wildhorse Resort & Casino.

Selected by Golf Digest as "One of America's Top Casino Golf Courses," the Wildhorse Golf Course is an award-winning, 18-hole championship course located on the resort property. It features five lakes, 66 white-sand bunkers and more than 7,000 yards of pristine fairways and greens.

Three-day general admission tickets are \$12, and single-day passes are available for \$5. Youth admission is free with a paid adult. Tickets can be purchased online at seatgeek.com/wildhorse-ladies-golf-classic-tickets.

Event organizers are accepting volunteers to support the tournament. Interested parties can learn more by visiting wildhorseresort.com/2026-epson-volunteer-registration.



The Wildhorse Resort in Pendleton will play host to the Epson Tour again for the 2026 season.

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Tribes see golf as an investment

It's no secret that the casinos are money makers that provide a huge revenue stream to Native American Tribes. But it's not all profit as there is debt to pay back and the large overhead to run the casino just for starters. The ongoing challenge for the casinos is to generate more traffic. This problem is especially important to remote locations as they find ways to generate income from just more than the casinos.

The interest in golf is also a way to turn casinos into resorts where customers are more likely to stay in the casino hotels.

Many tribes understand that golfers are, by nature, gamblers at heart. This is a perfect audience for their casino business so many have turned to the business of golf.

Across the country several tribes have sought out the best golf architects to design immaculate layouts for their courses, most of which show up on the must-play lists of national and local publications.

Example of this can be seen in the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Circling Raven in Worley, Idaho or the Squaxin Island Tribe's Salish Cliffs Golf Club. Both tribes enlisted Gene Bates to design stunning courses that routinely makes it to the top of state course lists.

Circling Raven has been one of the nation's most decorated modern resort courses. Salish Cliffs has been listed in the Top 10 Casino Courses by *GolfWeek* magazine for 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

Golf is becoming a wise tribal investment.



Salish Cliffs in Shelton, Wash. is an example of a high quality Tribe owned course

Silver Reef, Loomis Trail are Lummi properties

When the Lummi Nation decided to get into the golf business, it did in a big way by buying the Loomis Trail Golf Club in Blaine, Wash. It gave the tribe a complete resort with its golf course and Silver Reef Casino Resort in Ferndale.

Designed by Graham Cooke, Loomis Trail Golf Club is the #5 public golf course in Washington, as rated by *GolfWeek*. It's also the only course in Washington State to make the nation's Top 100. Constructed with the Northwest in mind, Loomis Trail is at the top of the list for year-round play. The resort has a variety of packages to get golfers and their guests to the area.

And there are a variety of rooms to choose from at the Silver Reef Resort from double rooms to king rooms to suite. There are plenty of ways to make your golf trip that much more enjoyable when you head to Loomis Trail.

For more information, see www.silverreef-casino.com.



Red Wolf: Prized property of Nez Pearce

One of the most recent entries into the Tribal golf course ownership is the Nez Pearce Tribe of Idaho, which bought the Clarkston Golf and Country Club four years ago.

One of the first changes the tribe made was to change the name to Red Wolf Golf Club. The course sits adjacent to the Snake River and features a walkable 18-hole course that has hosted some big-time tournaments through the years including the Pac-12 championships and several PPGA championships.

The Nez Pearce Tribe also owns and operates its own casino resort called the Clearwater River Casino and Lodge, which is located in Lewiston. This gives the Nez Pearce Tribe a casino resort in Idaho (Lewiston) and a golf course in Washington (Clarkston).

There are stay and play packages available, including a deals for one-night lodging, two rounds of golf and a cart. There are RV specials available too for those traveling into the area.



Red Wolf Golf Club in Clarkston, Wash. is owned and operated by the Nez Pearce Indian Tribe.

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Pacific Northwest Tribal Courses



Northwest golf courses owned by Indian Tribes

Washington

- 1 Kalispel Golf Club:** Course in Spokane is owned and operated by the Kalispel Indian Tribe.
- 2 Loomis Trail:** Golf course is owned by the Lummi Nation Indian Tribe.
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Idaho

- 14 Circling Raven:** The Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe owns Circling Raven and the casino in Worley, Idaho.

Central Oregon: Some of the state’s best courses

Editor's note: Central Oregon is home to some of the Pacific Northwest's top golf courses. Here is a look at where to play when you make the road trip to Central Oregon to tee it up:

Juniper Golf Course

Juniper Golf Club has undergone some serious changes over the years. The biggest, of course, was a completely new Juniper, which opened more than 10 years ago and replaced the old Juniper.

The old Juniper Golf Club was located near the Redmond Airport and when it became too costly to keep the land, the city of Redmond began to look at other options. The best one was to work on a deal with the Bureau of Land Management to acquire land just south of town and have Northwest architect John Harbottle design a new course.

When the new Juniper Golf Club opened for play it was a hit both on and off the course. The new Juniper plays to over 7,100 yards from the tips and has some terrific scenery, with the Oregon High Desert serving as a great background. Golf Digest took notice of the new course, naming Juniper as one of the Best New Affordable Courses (under \$75) for the 2006 golf season. Plus the course has also hosted the Oregon Open.

Most holes have great views, but the view from the 14th tee is dramatic. The view from the 14th gives players a peek at two mountains.

Black Butte Ranch Resort

Black Butte Ranch is one of those special places with plenty of family activities, but also is a golfer’s dream with two golf courses to choose from.

With the Big Meadow and Glaze Meadow golf courses, Black Butte is a golfer’s paradise. Each course provides a different, yet challenging golf experience and both are worth the trip to Central Oregon. And now, there is even more as a 12-hole putting course opened for play in late 2020 called Little Meadow Putting Course.

A brand -new main lodge opened in May, 2023. The second floor Aspen Lounge deck has unmatched view of the Three Sisters, Broken Top and Mt. Washington. There is a very large fireplace in the main restaurant area that also spans to the second-level bar.

Big Meadow Golf Course is a favorite among Oregon’s golfers and in 2013 was honored by GolfWeek

Magazine as one the “Best Courses You Can Play” in Oregon. Glaze Meadow Golf Course opened in 2012 after a \$3.75 million renovation.

Little Meadow Putting Course has 12 challenging holes to try before or after your round.

Crooked River Ranch

At Crooked River, the fifth hole is perhaps one of the most dynamic golf holes you will come across. There’s a great view and a tough shot. The dogleg left hole, a 260-yard par-4, may not seem intimidating on the scorecard, but from the tee box it’s another story.

The Crooked River runs along the left side of the hole in a large deep canyon and the desert sits on the right side. The green can be driven, but it’s a tough shot. Any shot to the left, and you’re left looking straight down 12 stories at your ball floating away in the Crooked River. In his book on Oregon Golf, author Paul Linnman calls the hole “the most spectacular golf hole in Oregon.”

Crooked River Ranch is a place for families. Not only is there the golf, there’s the camping, fishing and boating.

Aspen Lakes Golf Club

A “Hidden Gem” is how NBC’s Morning Drive described Aspen Lakes. It is the result of a lot of hard work and imagination by the Cyrus family, who bought the land in 1989. They turned a piece of high desert scrub land into one of the jewels of Central Oregon.

Three years ago, Aspen Lakes hired Oregon’s 2019 Golf Course Superintendent of the Year to “up our game” and make the course even better. Through lots of hard work and long hours, Aspen Lakes is unquestionably one of the best and most enjoyable courses to play in Central Oregon. If you had to pick two things that stand out at Aspen Lakes Golf Course, it would have to be the unique red volcanic crushed rock sand used in the bunkers and the great views of the mountains in the Cascade Range. Ponderosa pines, scented juniper trees, lakes and breathtaking views of the Cascade Mountains at almost every turn make Aspen Lakes an amazing all-around golf experience.

It’s no wonder it is a popular place for families and as well as corporate outings. A rustic clubhouse adds to the golfing experience. The course hosts one of the top team tournaments each year with the Central Oregon Shootout that takes place each April and will host the



Crooked River Ranch is not only a great place for a golf trip but it also a fun experience for families too.



Juniper Golf Course in Redmond as a place with great views and has hosted championship events.

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Eagle Crest Golf Resort

Surrounded by majestic, snowcapped Cascade Mountains, Eagle Crest Resort is located along the Deschutes River, just west of Redmond and north of Bend. Named a Golf Digest Best Place to Play in 2008 and 2009, guests return year-after-year for the Resort's 54 holes of golf (three courses) and extremely valuable, unlimited golf packages. They also return for the fully renovated Lodge at Eagle Crest, well-maintained vacation homes, three sport centers, indoor and outdoor pools, multiple tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, miles of hiking and biking trails, spa, and countless recreational pursuits throughout Central Oregon.

When it comes to golf, challenge, variety and value are the top priorities at Eagle Crest Resort. With two championship golf courses, the par-63 Challenge Course, and a popular 18-hole putting course, links lovers are never far from their favorite pastime. Four sets of tees on each course allow the more experienced golfers plenty of challenge, and the less experienced equally enjoyable rounds. And thanks to the lower elevation, The Ridge and Challenge Courses remain open all winter long.

- The Ridge Course – Host of the 1999 and 2002 Northwest Open, and 2006 Oregon Open.
- The Resort Course – Host of the 2011 Pacific Amateur and Oregon High School State Golf Championships since 1991.
- The Challenge Course - Named the Pacific Northwest's best short course by LINKS Magazine in 2006.

Running Y Ranch Resort

Running Y Ranch, Southern Oregon's only full-service destination resort, is home to the Arnold Palmer Signature Course, Arnold's only course in Oregon. Situated in the heart of the breathtaking Cascade Mountain range, just across the California boarder on the shores of Klamath Lake, the resort's exceptionally mild climate and 300 days of sunshine add up to a four-season recreational

paradise. The Arnold Palmer Signature Course at Running Y Ranch is consistently rated one of the country's best. When Arnold Palmer was asked to pick a favorite golf course from his many designs, he did not chose one, but 16. The list has become known as Arnold's "Sweet 16", and includes his course at Running Y Ranch. "The course at Running Y Ranch is one of my best tracks." – Arnold Palmer.

If you're looking for an Oregon golf resort that has it all, along with plenty of value, you will find it here. Running Y Ranch features a fully renovated, 82-room Lodge and new restaurant,

Lost Tracks Golf Club

Lost Tracks Golf Club in Bend opened in 1996 and was carved out of a stand of Ponderosa pines with lava rock outcroppings and small lakes that give the course a nice peaceful charm.

The bridge to the par-3 16th green is a railroad car, complete with everything you would find in a passenger car including the many bag tags left by golfers from other courses. The course got its name after construction workers found old railroad spikes and train tracks during the early stages of course preparation.

Lost Tracks has made significant changes through the years.

The most recent change is dramatic - the removal of trees and between the 13th and 14th holes and the construction of a series of water features between the two holes, which includes ponds connected with a stream.

River's Edge Golf Course

River's Edge Golf Course in Bend is known for its challenging layout and for good reason. The course sits on a hillside and features rolling fairways and undulating greens.

Along with its challenges, golfers should be pleased with the amount of positive changes the course has undergone. Tee boxes have been leveled, the fairway on the second hole has been made level, trees and limbs have been removed for better sight lines and the fairway

Juniper giving its driving range major upgrades with Toptracer

By Ian Haupt, Redmond Spokesman

Juniper Golf Course is set to add virtual technology to its driving range that will offer golfers data to analyze and improve their swing.

Toptracer provides real-time golf shot tracking and gives users total distance, ball speed, launch angle and other data while hitting balls. General manager Pat Cashman said it'll be like Topgolf but on a smaller scale.

The driving range bays will be built about 15 feet behind from where they currently are. Each bay will have its own individual monitor. The number of bays won't increase but they will come with added features, like heaters, and they will be covered.

Construction crews are scheduled to break ground in mid-July, if all things go well. That would make the technology available between late September and mid-October with construction expected to take 90 days.

"There's a lot of moving parts, so I'm glad it's finally all come together," Cashman said.

The new range bays were supposed to be available by midsummer but due to some scheduling conflicts construction was delayed.

Construction will cost around \$280,000. As a publicly-owned course, the project was budgeted for in the city of Redmond's proposed golf fund.

Other golf courses have seen increases in revenues after installing Toptracer to their driving ranges, chief financial officer Jason Neff said in a May 6 budget meeting.

About three years ago, the city also looked at expanding the Juniper's club-

house but the project would have cost around \$3 million, which was too much for the city. It is looking at expanding the food service options at the course, starting with a drink cart and barbecue and possibly adding a food truck in the future. But the first step is getting Toptracer installed.

Cashman is new to Juniper as well, taking over at the beginning of March, and said the project had been in the works long before he joined.

The back area of its range is grass and only open seasonally, which is why they hope to have the new bays built by fall. The driving range will be open during construction.

"It might be a little bit cumbersome getting around the construction, but we have a pretty good plan of how we're going to be able to facilitate people getting balls and getting out to the range," Cashman said.

Cashman grew up in Bend, attended Mountain View High School, and has been in the golf industry for about 17 years. He was the general manager at River's Edge Golf Course in Bend before taking the manager job at Juniper. He lives in Redmond.

Cashman said they are working to make the course more of a community asset.

"We're trying to do some things that are free to the community," he said. "A lot of people haven't been out to the golf course — maybe they don't golf."

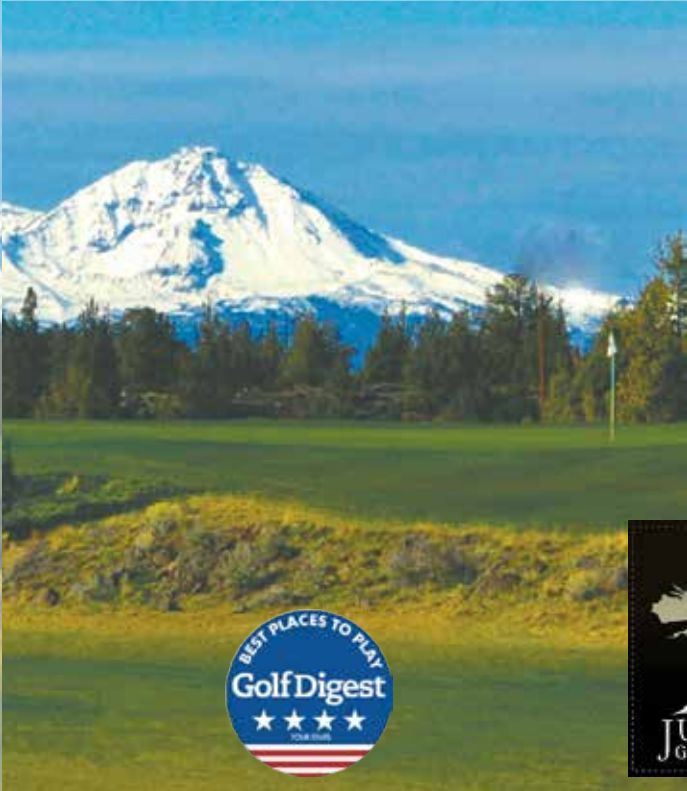
Juniper has its annual free community block party Friday, Aug. 28. Past years, there has been live music, a bouncy house, dunk tank, putt putt on the practice green.

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on No. 17 hole has been widened.

Tetherow Golf Club

When Tetherow Golf Club in Bend opened for play the course was an award winner right out of the gate. Many of the top golf publications around named Tetherow as one of the top new courses. And for good reason. The David McLay Kidd design is a challenging layout and offers links golf. The greens are large and undulating and the fairways have some small bunkers to grab those errant shots.

New lodging has helped raise the bar at Tetherow as well to make it a complete destination resort.

Sunriver Resort

If you are seeking a variety of incredible golf courses and want to stay in one place, then Sunriver Resort is the place for you. The Meadows and Woodlands courses are both beautiful and challenging, but are often are overshadowed by the attention given to the award-winning Crosswater. Sunriver is a popular resort for families in winter and summer and has all of the activities that you would expect to find at a top resort including a spa, many dining options, a fitness center, and of course the golf. A new course called Caldera Springs has opened, located next to Crosswater, and is a perfect place for your short game practice, although there are some longer holes.

Sunriver's Crosswater course, designed by Bob Cupp and John Fought, is perhaps one of the most visually pleasing courses you will ever come across.

The Little Deschutes River runs through the course and comes into play on many of the holes. Mount Bachelor is visible from several holes and the Deschutes River also can be seen. The course was ranked in the top 100 Greatest in the country by *Golf Digest* and is ranked third in the state.

Widgi Creek Golf Club

Widgi Creek Golf Club in Bend seemed to be in trouble in December of 2004 when the course went into bankruptcy, but Portland businessman Barry Helm stepped in, bought the course and immediately has made some noticeable changes.

In order to get the course back to pristine condition, Helm purchased a new fleet of maintenance equipment. He also improved the irrigation system and has renovated the clubhouse, including the kitchen and restaurant.



EagleCrest Resort (left) offers three different courses to tee it up; Black Butte has two championship courses to try with its Glaze and Big Meadow courses (right).

Helm's improvements have made Widgi Creek a place you want to stop at when playing golf in Central Oregon once again.

Quail Run Golf Course

Quail Run had always been thought of as a terrific nine-hole, but when nine new holes were built, the course suddenly became a Central Oregon hot spot. Quail Run plays to nearly 7,000 yards from the tips and features mountain and desert views. Located just south of Sunriver, the course is worth the few extra miles south.

Meadow Lakes Golf Course

Meadow Lakes Golf Course in Prineville has an interesting background. In 1988 the city of Prineville was looking for a way to treat its water after facing fines of up to \$25,000 a day. The solution was to build some water treatment ponds – and build a golf course around

the ponds, which eventually became the Meadow Lakes Golf Course.

Today, Meadow Lakes is an environmentally friendly golf course that presents a links-style layout with several water hazards to keep you focused. One of those hazards comes into play on the very first hole, a par-5 dogleg right.

Brasada Ranch

Brasada Canyons offers amazing golf, top-notch service, and a front row seat to the natural wonder of Central Oregon. Designed by native Oregonian Peter Jacobsen and Jim Hardy, the course just outside Bend is undeniably one of Central Oregon's most beautiful and enjoyable.

As the name suggests, 18 distinctive and challenging holes wind through, across and along the canyons of Brasada Ranch, beginning from 3,272 feet above sea level and climbing to just over 4,000.

Here your ball soars farther, as does your eye, with dramatic, unmatched views of snowcapped Cascade Mountains from nearly every hole. Eighteen holes at Brasada Canyons isn't simply a day of golf.

Plenty of private clubs

There are plenty of private country clubs in the Central Oregon area as well as public courses. In Bend, there are three of the top courses in the state with Bend Golf and Country Club, Broken Top and Awbrey Glen.

Bend Golf and Country Club is the oldest, having opened its original nine holes for play 75 years ago. It became an 18-hole course in 1974 and renovations have helped keep the course up to date. Both Awbrey Glen and Broken Top opened in 1993. Awbrey Glen opened as a public course, but turned private in 2000. Pronghorn is a private golf community and has two courses, which have already received a lot of attention. One is a Jack Nicklaus course and the other is a Tom Fazio course.

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