

Eiffel Tower, Paris



The author in US Ryder Cup Captain Jim Furyk's cart



Tee sign at Omaha Beach Golf Club

yards long and features fairways with significant drops and greens that will test your stroke. This course was a joy to play and not as testy as Le Chateau. The par-4 ninth hole stands out, playing uphill with a waterfall and a pond along the right side. The par-5 18th starts with a tee set high on a plateau playing down to brilliant water features along the entire right side, making it an ideal and scenic risk-reward finishing hole.

The gourmet restaurant at Terre Blanche's Le Faventia is quite prestigious, with Michelin-starred status due to its unsurpassed cuisine and service. Treat yourself to choices that are inspired by the seasons, the Provençal land and local products.

While French-U.S. relations have sometimes been chilly over the years, know that Americans are today warmly welcomed across the country. You will note that most countrymen and women are fit and happy. This may come as a surprise due to the vast quantities of bread and amazing rich butter that are served everywhere you go.

The 2018 Ryder Cup Matches should serve to educate and win over golf travelers to the spectacular country of France. What's not to love? Encompassing medieval cities; alpine villages; Mediterranean beaches; the famed fashion houses and classical art museums of Paris; and, of course, the Louvre and the iconic Eiffel Tower. Versailles might just be the best place the Ryder Cup matches have ever been held. Fantastique!

For more information on France and its golf offerings, visit: <http://us.france.fr/>

Hotel Novotel Saint Quentin Golf National
<http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-1139-novotel-saint-quentin-golf-national/index.shtml>

Pointe du Hoc
<https://www.abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/pointe-du-hoc-ranger-monument>

Philip Carey of Normandy Sightseeing Tours
<http://www.normandy-sightseeing-tours.com/d-day-tours.html>

Normandy Tourism
<http://en.normandie-tourisme.fr/normandie-tourism-1-2.html>

Deauville Tourism
<http://en.deauville.fr>

Terre Blanche Hotel Spa Golf Resort
<http://en.terre-blanche.com>



When the snow begins to dust the streets across Chicagoland, Arizona is where Windy City golfers jettison the street slush and their snow shovels for a Sonoran retreat. From the greater Phoenix metropolitan area to Tucson, great golf is as abundant as sunshine. With nearly 300 sunny days per year, this destination tops the country in sunshine, especially during the winter months.

Ditat Deus, the state's motto, translates to "God Enriches." From the cooper-and-orange banded mountains to the cactus-dotted deserts, this region is bursting with colors. Arizona golf is a paradise with sunscreen and shorts. In addition to the ideal temperatures, the varieties of golf courses offer Chicagoans a unique experience that cannot be found in the Midwest.

ARIZONA

THE GOLF STATE

When you think of the ultimate Arizona golf experience, what comes to mind? Is it the stunning scenery, on-course and off? The glorious mountain vistas in every direction? Do you envision gently rolling fairways ribboning through a lush desert landscape, with every hole framed by southwestern flora?

We-Ko-Pa Golf Club, located just minutes from Scottsdale, is that special place you're thinking of.

Since December 2001, all talk of We-Ko-Pa's Cholla Course has revolved around the gifts that nature has bestowed and rightly so. Located on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, We-Ko-Pa is blessed with jaw-dropping mountain vistas in every direction. In fact, "We-Ko-Pa" is the Yavapai pronunciation for "Four Peaks Mountain," a rugged rock formation that looms imposingly to the northeast.

Throughout one's round, players are greeted with all sorts of amazing light displays, as the shadows that are cast by the interplay of sun and mountains approach the artistic. At sunset, the colors and textures approach the surreal.

We-Ko-Pa's Cholla Course is the handiwork of architect Scott Miller. So spectacular are the views on the Cholla Course that the sound, strategic playing value of the holes that Miller designed could possibly get overlooked. Your first trip around will convince you otherwise. The variety in the routing and pacing of the holes will keep all levels of golfers entertained from opening tee shot to final tap-in.

The Cholla Course features an ideal blend of dog-legs and straightaway holes, a mix of slender and ample fairways, a balance of benign and rugged green complexes. The long and strong will challenge all of Cholla's 7,225 yards, but well-spaced multiple tee boxes allow every type of player to enjoy the course, especially from the friendly front tees, which measure 5,289 yards.

The noted golf course architectural team of Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw designed We-Ko-Pa's second 18, the award-winning Saguaro Golf Course. Open since December 2006, Saguaro has design elements not commonly found in the desert Southwest. Saguaro is much like the older more traditional courses found on the east coast, where greens are close to tees and the course follows the natural movement of the land making walking easy and enjoyable.

In Saguaro, Coore and Crenshaw re-introduced the all-important art form of tying the entrances to the greens into the greens themselves. The majority of the greens are open in front to allow for run-up shots. It is the subtle pitch and roll of the terrain on the approach to the greens that give each hole much of its unique playing characteristics.

Stretching 6,912 yards from the tips and playing to a par 71, Saguaro has been featured in numerous golf publications, including *Golfweek*, which currently ranks it as the No. 1 public access course in Arizona. In addition, *Golf* magazine named Saguaro one of the "Top 10 Best New Courses You Can Play" in the United States in 2007 and it currently sits at No. 98 on *Golf Digest's* list of "America's Top 100 Public Courses."

We-Ko-Pa's two courses, Cholla and Saguaro, have much in common – both are meticulously maintained, both have received high praise from the golf media and consumers alike and both offer a tranquil golf experience free of houses and roads, thus preserving the unobstructed mountain views of the Sonoran Desert. Or, more succinctly put, We-Ko-Pa is "Arizona's ultimate golf experience."



We-Ko-Pa Golf Club

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36 HOLES | PLAY CHOLLA & SAGUARO

Both the Scott Miller-designed Cholla course and the Coore/Crenshaw-designed Saguaro course made *GOLF* Magazine's list of the "Best Golf Courses You Can Play in Arizona, 2016-2017." And you can experience both within a 3-day period with the 36-hole package. Located minutes from Scottsdale in the pristine Sonoran Desert of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.



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Troon has Arizona’s must plays.

When traveling to Arizona to play golf, there are the “must play courses” and then there are the must plays. But with over 300 courses throughout the state, how’s a club-packing golfer to decide where to tee it up? The answer is easy. Visit www.TroonGolfAZ.com first. Here you can gather course information, book tee times, checkout stay and play packages and more.

Troon Golf-managed courses offer industry-leading consistency in service and surface. Simply put, if you’re playing a Troon property, you know it’s going to be awesome. The directory of courses in the Troon Golf portfolio in the Phoenix, Scottsdale and Tucson areas reads like a list of the state’s top golf courses – and for good reason, they are. Troon Golf properties throughout Arizona include: Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club, Boulders Resort & Spa, Golf Club of Estrella, Lookout Mountain Golf Club, The Phoenician, Poston Butte Golf Club, Sewailo Golf Club, SunRidge Canyon Golf Club, Troon North Golf Club, The Westin Kierland Golf Club, Whirlwind Golf Club at Wild Horse Pass and more...

All of these Troon-managed properties are set in stunning locations and capture the essence of the American Southwest. From the magnificence of the Boulders in Carefree and Troon North in Scottsdale, to the Sonoran Desert beauty of SunRidge Canyon in Fountain Hills and Whirlwind Golf Club in Chandler, each course has its own unique way of leaving you speechless and amazed.

In addition to delivering on beauty, incredible service and outstanding playing surfaces, Troon’s Arizona properties are focused on making the game of golf more fun. For example, The Westin Kierland Golf Club offers guests the option of playing on Golf Boards, Golf Bikes or Segways. For golf traditionalists, Kierland also offers the option of playing with a caddie. Other Troon-Arizona properties offering caddie services include Troon North, Boulders, The Phoenician and Whirlwind with a number of other highly-rated clubs expected to introduce caddie programs this fall.

For those who can’t quite “unplug” while on the course, Scottsdale-area Troon facilities feature helpful USB charging ports in all of their golf carts and all Troon Arizona courses offer free apps for download with handy course GPS and tee time booking options built-in.

If you’re spending more than just a few days playing golf in the Arizona sun, think about purchasing an Arizona Troon Card for additional savings. Troon Cards, available as TwoSome or FourSome Cards, are the absolute best way to play Troon’s top courses at the lowest rates. Troon Cardholders can reserve tee times within three days of their desired date of play and enjoy up to 50 percent off golf fees. Can’t wait until

three days out to book a tee time? No problem. With Troon Card’s Best Rate Guarantee, Troon Cardholders can book any online rate and still receive 15 percent off their golf fees at check in. Arizona Troon Cards, as well as other state and regional Troon Cards, are available through Troon.com.

Once you have your Troon Golf Arizona golf itinerary mapped out and your accommodations set, it’s time to enjoy the best Arizona golf has to offer. One last piece of advice – you can pack your own clubs or use the outstanding Callaway rental sets available at every Troon Golf property.

For more information on Troon’s Arizona courses, visit www.TroonGolfAZ.com.



It’s Golf Bucket List Time. First Stop: Arizona
When you want to play the very best,
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Left to right: Whirlwind Golf Club at Wild Horse Pass, Chandler; Sewailo Golf Club, Tucson; Troon North Golf Club, Scottsdale.

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Rancho Mañana Golf Club, located in the high Sonoran Desert in historic Cave Creek, Arizona, boasts some of the state's most breathtaking views and challenging holes of golf. Situated along an original Pony Express stop and U.S. Cavalry watering hole, Rancho Mañana Golf Club has continually ranked among *Golf Digest's* "Places To Play" and is regarded as "One of Arizona's Most Scenic Golf Courses." Convenient to most Scottsdale and Phoenix resorts and hotels, the course has become a valley favorite of visitors from around the country due to its unique beauty and native surroundings.

From the first hole, the front nine takes golfers through the Town of Cave Creek's name sake, Cave Creek Wash, one of the last remaining riparian areas in the state. Each subsequent hole ventures upward to higher elevations, where one can witness some of the state's most breathtaking views. Nowhere else in the Valley of the Sun can a golfer simultaneously view picturesque images of Camelback Mountain, Mummy Mountain, Squaw Peak, Black Mountain, South Mountain, and the dramatic Tonto National Forest, with its distinctive Elephant Butte.

Golfers then begin to meander back towards the site of a once-thriving western dude ranch—now the clubhouse and restaurant facilities, with their original, rustic structures. From there, Rancho Mañana's back nine allows one to encounter a slightly different experience, as golfers work their way around a lush oasis of water-guarded holes with 360 degrees of unobstructed mountain views, where Mother Nature's vast array of wildlife can be found, including the likes of bobcats, roadrunners, rabbits and mule deer.

Although the par-70 layout features dramatic elevation changes and acres of unspoiled desert terrain, Rancho Mañana is well known for its fairness and playability for golfers of all abilities. Built in the late 1980s, the course has had time to mature, and a few key renovations throughout its history have improved it with age. The recently renovated bunkers provide just the right amount of challenge without creating undue stress caused by shoulder-deep traps sometimes encountered in the game.

It's easy to see why the course has won so many accolades, including making the list of "America's Top 50 Courses for Women" by *Golf Digest* in 2010. Most holes don't have extensively long forced carries from the tees, and the same is true for nearly all the greens that are accepting of low-bouncing shots hit short of the green. The course was also selected as being in the top 10 courses in Arizona by *Ranking Arizona* magazine during the same year.

The 19th hole is usually of equal importance to the golf course itself for any golf experience, and the Tonto Bar and Grill is only a few short steps away and captures the rustic desert ambiance of years gone by with hand-carved beams of the historic ranch ceiling still in place. With two dining areas inside and a covered patio overlooking the 11th

green, the facility certainly provides a cozy spot to relax after an enjoyable day on the links.

In addition to offering cold beverages, great care is taken to ensure the menu is second to none and that it fully embraces the local flavors of the southwest. Chef Eric Flatt and his staff also aim to preserve Arizona's heritage through cuisine and by sharing the stories of the property's past. They fuse Southwestern and Native American ingredients and present them in a warm, welcoming atmosphere rich in Arizona lore. Many areas of the restaurant feature historic photos of the property from the years as one of Arizona's most successful dude ranches in the 1940s.

The restaurant has also received numerous awards and accolades, including being honored by *PHOENIX* magazine in their list of the valley's Top 100 Restaurants, and a continuous honor from *Wine Spector* magazine due to the extensive wine selections that are available.

Rancho Mañana is an experience that truly represents the uniqueness of golf in the Arizona desert. For tee times, call Rancho Mañana Golf Club at 480-488-0398 or visit www.ranchomanana.com. For restaurant reservations/information, call Tonto Bar & Grill at 480-488-0698.

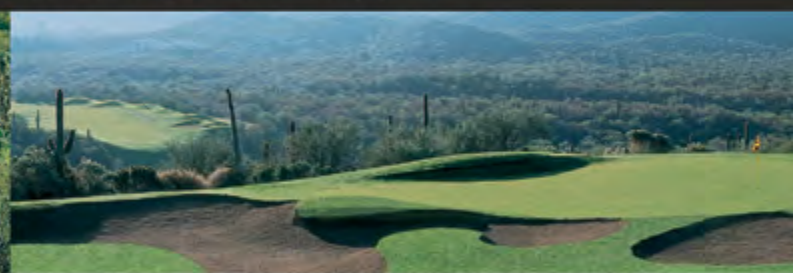


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The most passionate of golfers living in cold-weather climates across North America have two options when Old Man Winter comes around for his annual visit: They refine their respective snow golf games, using the neighbor's mailbox as a target for a wedge off the fresh two feet of snow dropped by the latest blizzard; or they head out to a warmer climate, where golf is played in 70-degree weather during the winter months.

That's where the Foothills Golf Group comes into play. A collection of four courses located in Phoenix, Arizona, they understand that many of golf's biggest players don't have the budget for many of golf's biggest green fees. Instead, they have developed a loyal following for championship golf at some of Arizona's most affordable prices. Add that to the fact that the most recent reviews of the courses on golf websites have been overwhelmingly positive, and there's no surprise they have established themselves as one of the best golf destinations within the Grand Canyon State.

Ahwatukee Country Club was designed by Arizona golf legend John Bulla. Measuring 6,713 yards, the par 72 layout mixes the beauty of its desert landscape with mature, tree-lined fairways. It has been described as a challenging-yet-fair layout to create a memorable golf experience, one where success is possible on most holes. Opened in 1973, the club's amenities include a full practice range and short game practice area, complete golf shop and casual dining set against beautiful golf course views.

Just a 10-minute drive to the southwest, The Foothills Golf Club truly represents what desert golf should be, catering to both power and course management-minded players. The par-72 Championship, links-style course was designed by internationally-acclaimed architects Tom Weiskopf and Jay Morrish, and stretches to almost 7,000 yards from the back tees. Lush rolling fairways, blue lakes and 65 bunkers are set against rough rocky desert terrain to make golfers think twice about placement and angle for most shots. With four sets of tees, The Foothills Golf Club has appeal for golfers of all skill levels and has earned a four-star ranking from *Golf Digest*, along with being listed as one of Phoenix's top golf courses.

Another four miles to the west, Club West Golf Club features a stunning 18-hole championship layout designed by the team of Brian Whitcomb and Ken Kavanaugh. Four sets of tees range from 4,985 yards at the forward tees to as many as 7,142 yards from the championship tees. Club West's elevation changes and 360-degree natural beauty distinguish it from other Phoenix golf courses. Case in point: The signature downhill "double green" 17th hole that is highlighted by dramatic views and a tee to green elevation change of more than 100 feet. Club West also features a complete practice range, well-appointed golf shop and full-service Agave Bistro that high-

lights spectacular views from the elegant dining room and patio.

And a short drive south of Phoenix, Maricopa's The Duke at Rancho El Dorado is a championship 18-hole track that is best described as perfect for the golfer with a sense of discovery. Playing to a par of 72, The Duke is highlighted by expansive fairways that complement the wide open spaces of the Old West. The David B. Druzisky design creates a challenging golf experience for golfers with a passion for the game. The sporting spirit is alive and well on site, with risk/reward shots affecting decision-making by players on both nines. The Santa Rosa Wash snakes through the property, enhancing the experience of change from hole to hole. Featuring mountain views, attentive service, and plush conditions, The Duke has the feel of a high-end, private golf club without the high-end, private club fees.

And that is exactly what makes the Foothills Golf Group a perfect destination for golfers looking to play year-round, instead of putting their clubs away until snow melts and frost delays are no more. With four championship golf courses, a host of first-class amenities, top-notch customer service and more perks than can be listed, book your round today at Ahwatukee Country Club, The Foothills Golf Club, Club West Golf Club, and The Duke at El Dorado Ranch. It's the Arizona golf you've come to expect.



Foothills Golf Group

feel the grass



As a golfer, the comfort of grass beneath your feet is not out of reach at the Foothills Golf Group collection. With great rates and four great courses to choose from, getting your golf fix in Arizona is easier than ever.

So get out and feel the grass at Ahwatukee Country Club, Club West, The Duke or Foothills Golf Club. Call or visit us on the web to learn more about our great rates in sunny Arizona.


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