

Chips & Putts...

Walt Disney World Resort Hotels Make Getting to Courses the Easiest Drive of the Day

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – Golfers can choose any of the Walt Disney World owned-and-operated hotels as their golf resort – from Disney’s All-Star Resorts for value-minded golfers to the grandeur of Disney’s Grand Floridian Resort & Spa. Whatever the choice, consider these conveniences:

- Golfers advise front desk or transportation hosts about tee times, and special hotel-to-course transportation is arranged.
- When the golf is complete on one of Disney’s four championship courses, golf service staff will arrange convenient transportation back to the Disney resort hotel.
- If rounds on a subsequent day are at a different Disney course, the golf service staff can arrange club transfer and storage at the other courses.

Disney Golf Offers Deals Across All Courses

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – Disney Golf has created offers that span all championship courses at Walt Disney World Resort. Whether a guest makes the trip specifically for the greens or to squeeze in some holes while on a family vacation, Disney has made it all possible with these opportunities:

- Guests staying at Walt Disney World hotels can swing into action with a complimentary club rental when they purchase a non-discounted round of golf at Disney’s Palm, Magnolia, Lake Buena Vista or Osprey Ridge golf courses. Offer includes choice of Titleist and Cobra clubs, range balls and transportation to and from the guest’s Walt Disney World hotel. Offer valid through Dec. 31, 2010.
- The Water Park Fun & More ticket option now includes a round of golf at Disney’s Oak Trail golf course, a nine-hole walking course designed for the entire family. For \$40, a guest can upgrade the Water Park Fun & More Disney’s Oak Trail entitlement to play 18 holes on one of Disney’s four championship courses.

Signatures of Greatness on Disney Courses

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – The four Disney championship courses have the signature of distinguished course architects Pete Dye, Tom Fazio and Joe Lee. And the courses have tested some of the world’s best-known golfers as Walt Disney World Resort has hosted PGA TOUR and LPGA events.

Since 1971, the Magnolia course has welcomed top PGA TOUR pros for an annual fall event – currently the Children’s Miracle Network Classic. The Palm and Lake Buena Vista courses also have been used during this event.

Disney’s Golf Courses Recognized for Environmental Excellence

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – Audubon International has discovered something that many top golfers have known for years: Disney’s golf courses are great places for “birdies.”

The Walt Disney World courses have achieved designation as a “Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary” by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), the educational division of Audubon International, endorsed by

the United States Golf Association.

The designation is earned by “maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas,” according to Joellen Zeh, staff ecologist for the Cooperative Sanctuary System. Categories include: environmental planning, wildlife and habitat management, outreach and education, integrated pest management, water conservation, and water quality management. Courses in the United States, Canada and Europe have achieved certification.

Florida Residents Can Save Year-Round with Disney’s Annual Golf Membership

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Floridians have a chance to play where the pros do – at the lowest rates available to the public – with Disney’s Annual Golf Membership offering year-round special rates on Disney’s four championship courses.

The \$50 (plus tax) membership fee offers:

- savings of up to 60 percent (depending upon the time of year) for greens fees after 10 a.m. for the member and up to three guests
- use of an electric cart during golf rounds
- savings of 20 percent on golf instruction

Florida residents can arrange membership by calling 407/WDW-GOLF or by visiting any of the three Walt Disney World golf pro shops. Proof of Florida residency is required, and membership is valid for one year from the date of purchase.

Disney’s Championship Courses Feature TifEagle Greens Following ‘Extreme Makeover’

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – The greens on all four Disney championship courses have undergone an extreme makeover involving installation of a variety of bermudagrass that provides an improved putting surface. TifEagle, which claims “improved speed, consistency and overall playability,” was installed during the summers of 2004 (Palm), 2005 (Magnolia), 2006 (Osprey Ridge) and 2007 (Lake Buena Vista).

Future installation is planned for Disney’s nine-hole course, Oak Trail. That course currently features Tifdwarf on the greens.

Golfers used to the putting characteristics of bentgrass will find the relatively new ultra dwarf TifEagle more to their liking, according to head golf professional Kevin Weickel: “It’s almost as fast as bentgrass.”

While the greens were being resurfaced, the tees on the affected course were laser-leveled and rebuilt using Tifway419 bermudagrass. At the same time, work was done on sandtraps and drainage.

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