

THE BEST OF GOLF NEW ZEALAND

Pure Golf

IN NEW ZEALAND, THERE IS NO ESCAPING SPECTACULAR SCENERY. COMBINE THIS WITH DRAMATIC LANDSCAPES HAND-CRAFTED BY MOTHER NATURE AND NURTURED INTO GOLFING PLAYGROUNDS, THE LAND OF THE LONG WHITE CLOUD HAS ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS ONE OF THE HOTTEST GOLF DESTINATIONS ON THE PLANET.

WORDS: BRENDAN JAMES

GOLF AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND TRAVEL SPECIAL

PUTTING KIWI GOLF ON THE MAP

Scottish immigrants introduced the game of golf in the South Island in the 19th century and their links-style courses still thrive today. But those courses were built for locals, not for the rest of the world.

Subsequently New Zealand and 'golf' were not spoken in the same breath unless a television commentator referred to one of the country's many great professionals including British Open champion Sir Bob Charles, US PGA Tour winners John Lister, Frank Nobilo, Grant Waite and Phil Taurangi, or European PGA Tour winners Greg Turner and Michael Campbell.

New Zealand is popular for extraordinary outdoor adventure and thrills like bungy jumping and having the most stunning landscapes to do it in. But it's less established as a destination for golf. Now, with new investment and a series of world-ranked five-star resorts, that has certainly changed.

The country has been transformed into a golfing paradise and Michael Campbell's win in the 2005 US Open Championship has certainly put New Zealand on the radar for golf travellers.

From Carrington Resort on the North Island Pacific coast to Millbrook in the Southern Alps, nine dedicated golf facilities have joined forces with Tourism New Zealand, New Zealand Trade & Enterprise, the New Zealand Golf Association and the New Zealand PGA to form a quality-control group called The Best of Golf New Zealand.

The aim is to provide guests with world-class courses and facilities and altogether the best possible golfing holiday. To do this, The Best of Golf New Zealand has teamed up, so to speak, with Tourism New Zealand's quality assurance program called Qualmark.

To receive a Qualmark endorsement, golf resorts have to meet stringent requirements that cover every detail from the condition of the course and facilities to a code of ethics that requires, for example, courses to "recognise the right of the customer to courteous, prompt and honest service". Where other countries promote golf travel packages, New Zealand is the first country to establish golf tourism underwritten by a government-backed quality assurance program.

If you have only one week to play, then think of North Island and South Island as separate tours. Play one tour now, the other at another time. To try your luck at all the Best of Golf New Zealand destinations, and some selected other courses reviewed here, we suggest you plan for a full two-week journey.

The New Zealand Golf Tourism Cluster operates as The Best of Golf New Zealand. Primary members are: Carrington A Heritage Resort, Gulf Harbour Country Club, Lakes Resort, Wairakei International Golf Course, Terrace Downs, Clearwater, Jacks Point and Millbrook Resort. New Zealand has two golf courses – Kauri Cliffs and Cape Kidnappers – that are ranked in the World top-50.

[For more information visit www.bestofgolfnz.com] ▶

A PERSONAL INVITE FROM MICHAEL CAMPBELL

Michael Campbell is not only a US Open champion, he is one of New Zealand's finest golfing ambassadors. Born and bred in the Taranaki district of the North Island, Campbell grew up dreaming of becoming an All Black rugby player but the lure of the links grew too great. During the late '80s and early '90s, Campbell represented New Zealand many times as an amateur with a highlight being victory in the 1992 Eisenhower Trophy in Vancouver, Canada.

Michael turned professional in 1993 and two years later, he held the 54-hole lead in the Open Championship at St Andrews before finishing third. The performance signalled his arrival on the world stage.

His enormous potential was fully realised in 2005 with victory in the US Open Championship at Pinehurst No.2 and, just a few months later, in the lucrative World Match Play Championship at Wentworth, England.

Campbell is again climbing the ranks of the world's best players with a number of strong performances on the European Tour – all the while, flying the Kiwi flag.

As the most successful Kiwi golfer of the modern era, Campbell is no better advocate for New Zealand and its golf courses.

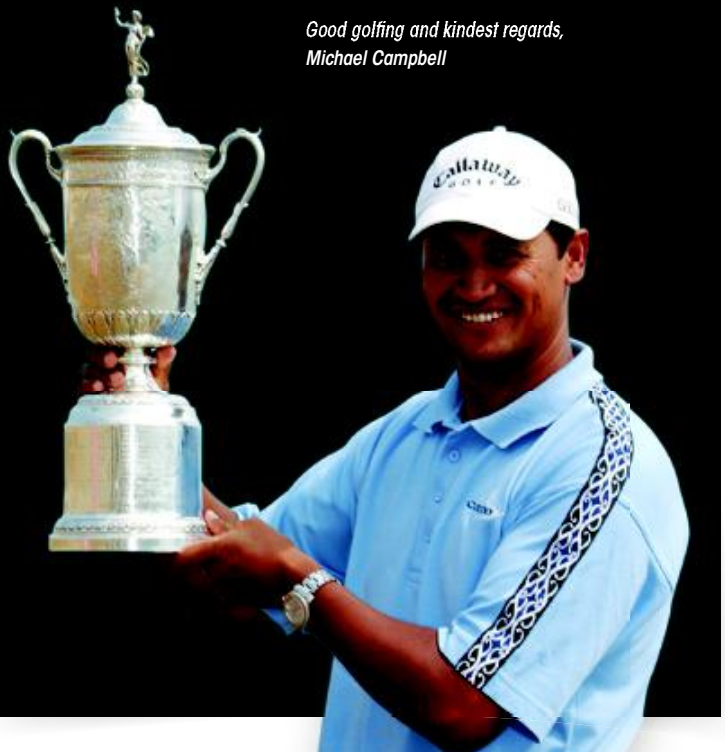
So, will you accept Michael Campbell's invitation to visit his homeland, play its wonderful golf courses and experience its vast array of natural attractions?

"I always look forward to getting back to New Zealand, obviously to see family and friends, but also to relive the sights, sounds and smells of my homeland. The natural beauty of the land is New Zealand's greatest resource. Everywhere you go there are breathtaking views.

"New Zealand is a sport-loving nation and one of our favourites is golf, which is why you will find plenty of courses scattered throughout the country. From world-famous layouts to hidden gems, my country has it all and it's not as far away as you think.

"If you enjoy mixing world standard golf with equally fine wine, food and sightseeing, you should come and experience New Zealand. You'll love it!"

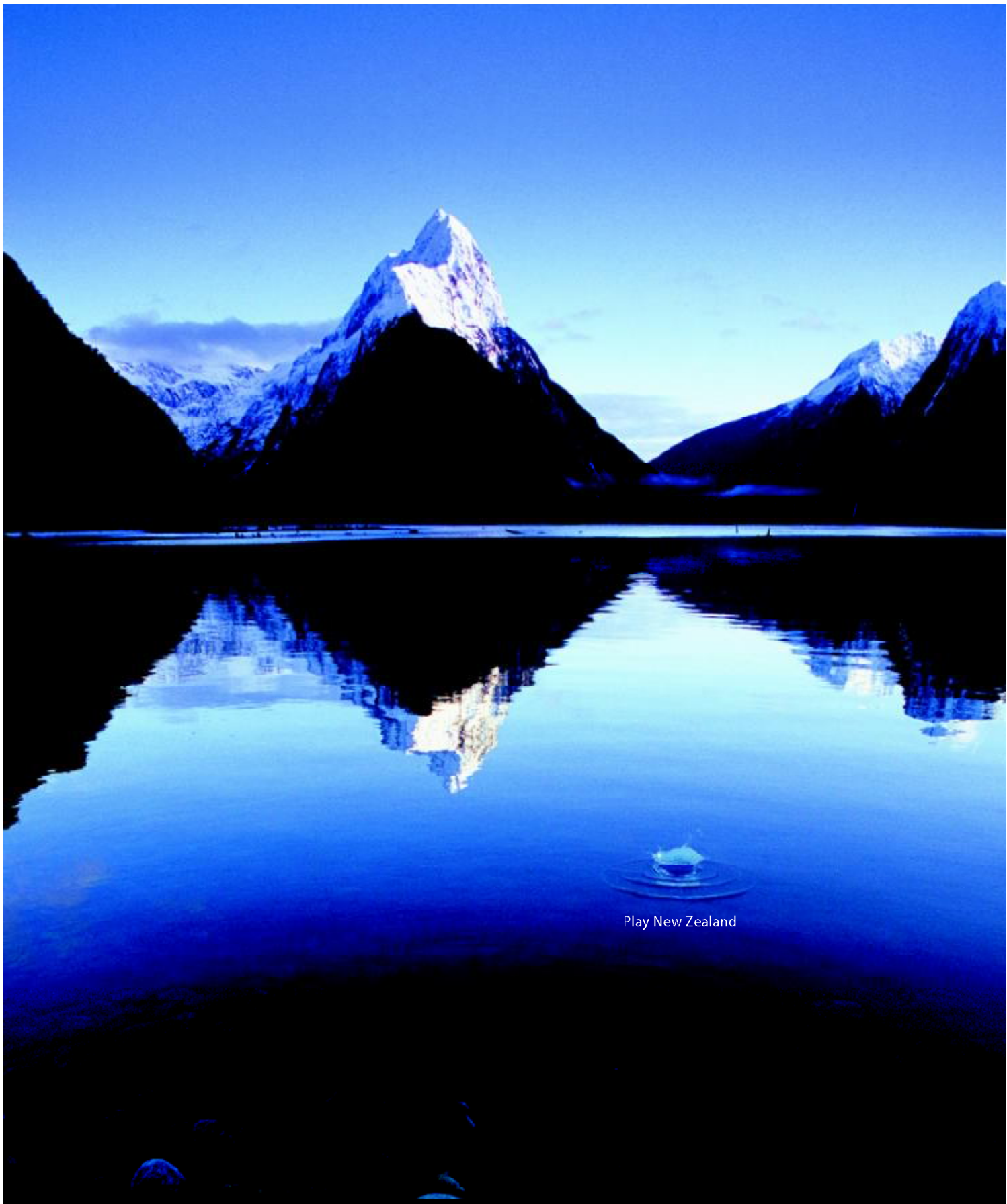
*Good golfing and kindest regards,
Michael Campbell*



WHERE TO PLAY

- 1 Carrington Resort
- 2 Kauri Cliffs
- 3 Gulf Harbour Country Club
- 4 Lakes Resort Pauanui
- 5 Wairakei International Golf Club
- 6 The Club Kinloch
- 7 Cape Kidnappers
- 8 Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club
- 9 Terrace Downs High Country Resort
- 10 Clearwater Resort
- 11 Jacks Point
- 12 Millbrook Resort





Play New Zealand

New Zealand's incredible golf courses can offer quite a different experience to their Australian counterparts. You'll notice we have plenty of water here so the water hazards tend to be on the large size. You'll also find exclusive accommodation, warm Kiwi hospitality and a range of unique leisure activities. With courses like Cape Kidnappers, Kauri Cliffs, The Kinloch Club, Wairakei International and Jacks Point, there's even more reason to tee off in New Zealand. Book your ultimate golf vacation at www.greenfernz.com or call toll free 1800 420 096.

Greenfernz
SELECT GOLF EXCURSIONS OF NEW ZEALAND

North Island

According to Maori mythology, the demi-god Maui pulled a giant fish to the ocean's surface to form New Zealand's North Island, which, today, is home to world-class golf courses and resorts like Cape Kidnappers and Kauri Cliffs (*pictured below*).

But there is also the beautiful ocean playground in the north around the Bay of Islands, magnificent volcanic hills and spectacular cliffs of the Coromandel Peninsula and the famed geothermal sites of Rotorua – the birthplace of New Zealand tourism – which is home to the amazing Champagne Pool (*main picture*). The pool fills a 900-year-old crater and the waters are tinted green with arsenic, sulphur and iron compounds. ▶



Carrington Resort



LEFT: The downhill 5th is a strategic two-shotter that tempts long hitters into error. ABOVE: Water really comes into play on the short par-4 6th, which rates as one of Carrington's hardest offerings. RIGHT: Luxurious lodges overlook the tough 14th hole.



Dye's bunkering at Carrington is dynamic and intimidating.



PHOTOS: BRINDAN JAMES X 3 PREVIOUS PAGE SUPPLIED BY NZ TOURISM

The Carrington Resort occupies stunning seaside land on the Karikari Peninsula and is New Zealand's northernmost resort course.

Knowing this course is beside the Pacific Ocean, you might suspect that this is a links layout but it is not. It is surprisingly more like an inland course with large naturally occurring water hazards and a rolling landscape dictating the flow of holes.

Developed by American investment banker Paul Kelly, Carrington was extensively remodelled by designer Matt Dye and re-opened for play in December 2003. Dye – a third-generation member of the acclaimed Dye family of golf course designers – began his own design business in 2002 and Carrington was his first solo project. He has been receiving accolades for his work ever since.

Carrington lies on beautiful land, where the views, especially from the clubhouse, towards the 15-metre-high sand dunes backing Karikari Beach and Great Exhibition Bay, are superb.

The natural contours of the land and the length of the layout – stretched to a 6,429-metre, par-72, from the Tiger tees – combine to create a stern challenge for better players. Casual players are able to play from two other teeing ground options that present a less demanding layout length.

While the length can be considered demanding, especially on windy days of which there are many, it is some of Carrington's short holes that will impress. The 301-metre par-4 5th is a wonderfully strategic hole. The fairway cascades down dramatically from tee to green and, depending on the wind direction, you can hit any club from a driver to a mid-iron to find a plateau en route to the putting surface.

The 6th hole, a 350-metre par-4, and the par-3 7th both bring water into play as they skirt a large lake. The 6th hole demands a tee shot to carry the lake for a short distance before finding a narrow stretch of fairway. Despite measuring 75 metres shorter than the longest par-4 on the layout, this slight dogleg left hole still rates as Carrington's hardest.

At the following hole, the tee shot must carry the entire width of the lake to reach the green, which is two thirds surrounded by water. From the shortest tee it is but a short iron from 113 metres but from the Tiger tees a solid blow is needed from 165 metres to safely find the putting surface.

Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** NZ\$135, NZ\$85 (NZGA affiliated players, Carrington Lodge/Milla guests). **Carts:** NZ\$40.
-  The resort is fully serviced with lodge and private villa accommodation. There are world-class recreational facilities including a heated swimming pool and spa, two championship tennis courts, Olympic standard clay and skeet target shooting range and a gymnasium. Horse riding, fishing and scuba diving are also available.
-  Carrington Resort is less than 30 minutes' drive from Kaitiaki airport, which is serviced by flights from Auckland.
-  If driving, the resort is more than 340km north of Auckland. Allow for nearly five hours driving time travelling north via State Highway 1. The resort is on Maitai Bay Rd, Karikari Peninsula.
-  Visit www.heritagehotels.co.nz/Carrington-Resort or phone +64 9 408 7222.

THE BEST OF GOLF NEW ZEALAND

DISCOVER NORTHLAND GOLF

Warm sunshine caressing the contours of perfectly-groomed fairways; vast Pacific Ocean views framed by subtropical splendour; challenging holes that draw on your entire repertoire of skills – golf in the Northland region is an unforgettable experience.



LUXURY LINKS

Luckily for you, the golfing world has bestowed two of the world's finest courses – Kauri Cliffs and Carrington – on Northland. Whether you visit them both or just one, you're assured of a sensational time.

Located at Matauri Bay, north of Kerikeri, Kauri Cliffs is a championship course designed and built by David Harman. Pacific Ocean views dominate 15 holes, six of which are played

along a cliff's edge. The beautiful inland holes wander through wetland, forest and farmland. Kauri Cliffs also offers the highest standard of cottage accommodation and dining.

Northland's other five-star golf experience is Carrington, situated on the Karikari peninsula near Kaitiaki. It features an ocean-side, tournament-quality course designed by Matt Dye. Carrington also offers luxury accommodation with lodge and villa options.



FRIENDLY CLUB COURSES

Amazing views and challenging holes can also be found at the 13 club courses sprinkled around the Northland area.

A favourite with the locals is Kerikeri Golf Club, which has water hazards that leave a lasting impression. The signature hole here is the 13th – pretty as a picture, but with teeth. The club course at Waitangi (*pictured below*) is also a 'must play' – the

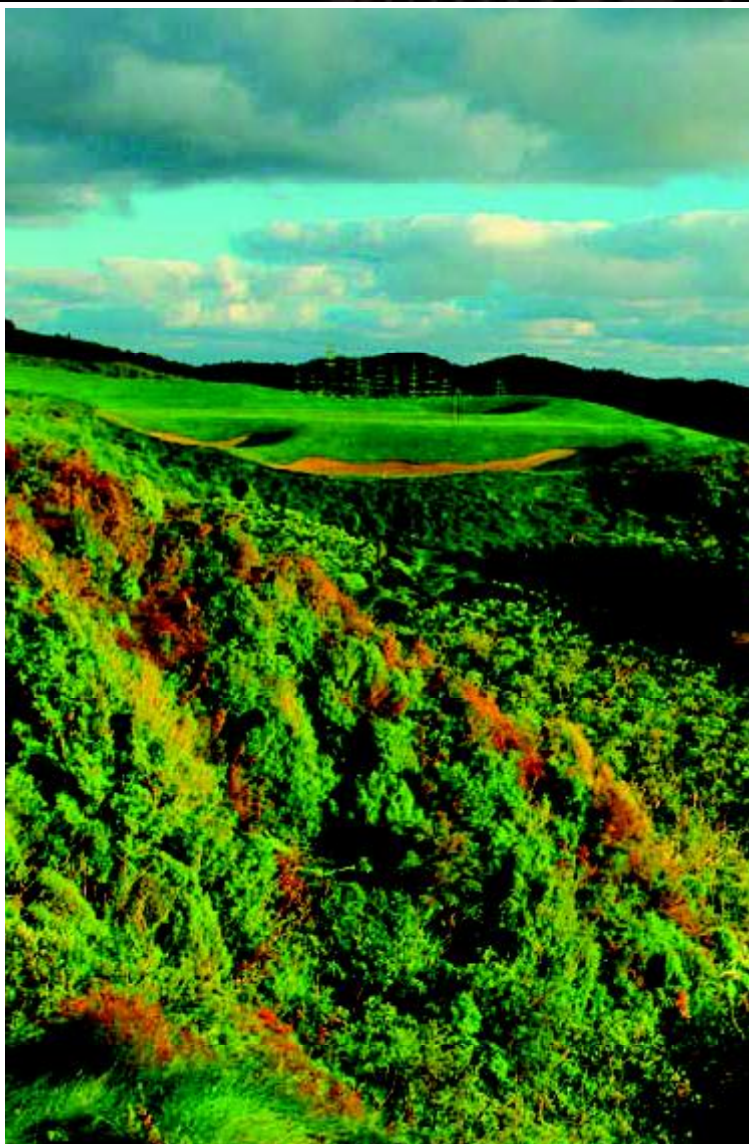
ocean views are so great, there's a risk you'll be distracted from your game.

Another spectacular club course can be found at Ahipara, which runs parallel to famous Ninety Mile Beach and offers magnificent views of the Tasman Sea and the enormous sand dunes at Reef Point.

TWIN COAST GOLF TRAIL

You can combine a road tour of Northland with a daily game of golf by following the Twin Coast Golf Trail – beginning in Auckland, the trail leads you around all 13 club courses, as well as Kauri Cliffs and Carrington.

[For more information visit the website www.northlandnz.com].



TOP: The daunting par-3 7th hole brings the ocean into play for the first time.
ABOVE: The Cavalli Islands provide a stunning backdrop to all the cliff top holes.



Kauri Cliffs

When Kauri Cliffs opened for play in 2000 it immediately elbowed its way onto the list of the world's top-100 courses. It's not hard to see why.

It has been compared to the Pebble Beach layout, on California's Monterey Peninsula, which is ranked in the top-10 of that global list.

But, in my opinion, Kauri Cliffs is far more spectacular than the American tournament course as it sits much higher on the cliff tops above the Pacific Ocean and covers more dramatic landscape.

Kauri Cliffs is the brainchild of American hedge fund guru Julian Robertson, who bought the 4,000-acre sheep and cattle farm overlooking the Bay of Islands with a dream to develop a world class golf course and guest accommodation. He succeeded, perhaps even beyond his own expectations.

More than 800 of the 4,000 acres of the property are devoted to the course, which was designed by American David Harman, who had previously worked on designs with Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer.

On the day I visited Kauri Cliffs I was the first player out on the course and more were not expected for several hours. It is not often you have such a stunning golf course all to yourself, where often the only sound you hear between shots is the whistling wind. A busy day will see more than 20 golfers on the course.

The unhurried nature of a round (tee times are 20 minutes apart) at Kauri Cliffs gives you time to soak in the spectacular holes Harman has created as well as the postcard views of the Cavalli

Islands, that lie just off the coast. The islands serve as a backdrop to a few holes on the front nine and five stunning holes heading back to the clubhouse on the inward nine.

There are so many good holes at Kauri Cliffs it is hard to single out a few but the long par-3s, the 7th and 14th holes, really impressed.

Kauri Cliffs is not a course you will line up to play on a regular basis (the green fee of \$400 – in high season – to visiting overseas players sees to that) but if you want to experience one of the great wonders of world golf, take out a loan and ring for a tee time.

Fact File...

Green fees: Low season (May 1–September 30), NZ\$300 (non-New Zealand residents); High season (October 1–April 30), NZ\$400 (non-New Zealand residents). **Carts:** NZ\$35.

The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs has won several international awards and is regarded as one of the finest boutique resorts in the world. There are 11 well-appointed cottages as well as the two-bedroom Owner's Cottage, which offers one-night accommodation from NZ\$5,500.

Kauri Cliffs is 30 minutes' drive from Kerikeri airport, which is serviced daily by several flights from Auckland. The flight takes about an hour. Several helicopter companies operate flights from Auckland to Kauri Cliffs. These can be arranged by the club.

If driving, the resort is 292km north of Auckland or nearly four hours' drive via State Highway 1. Kauri Cliffs is at the end of Matauri Bay Rd, Matauri Bay.

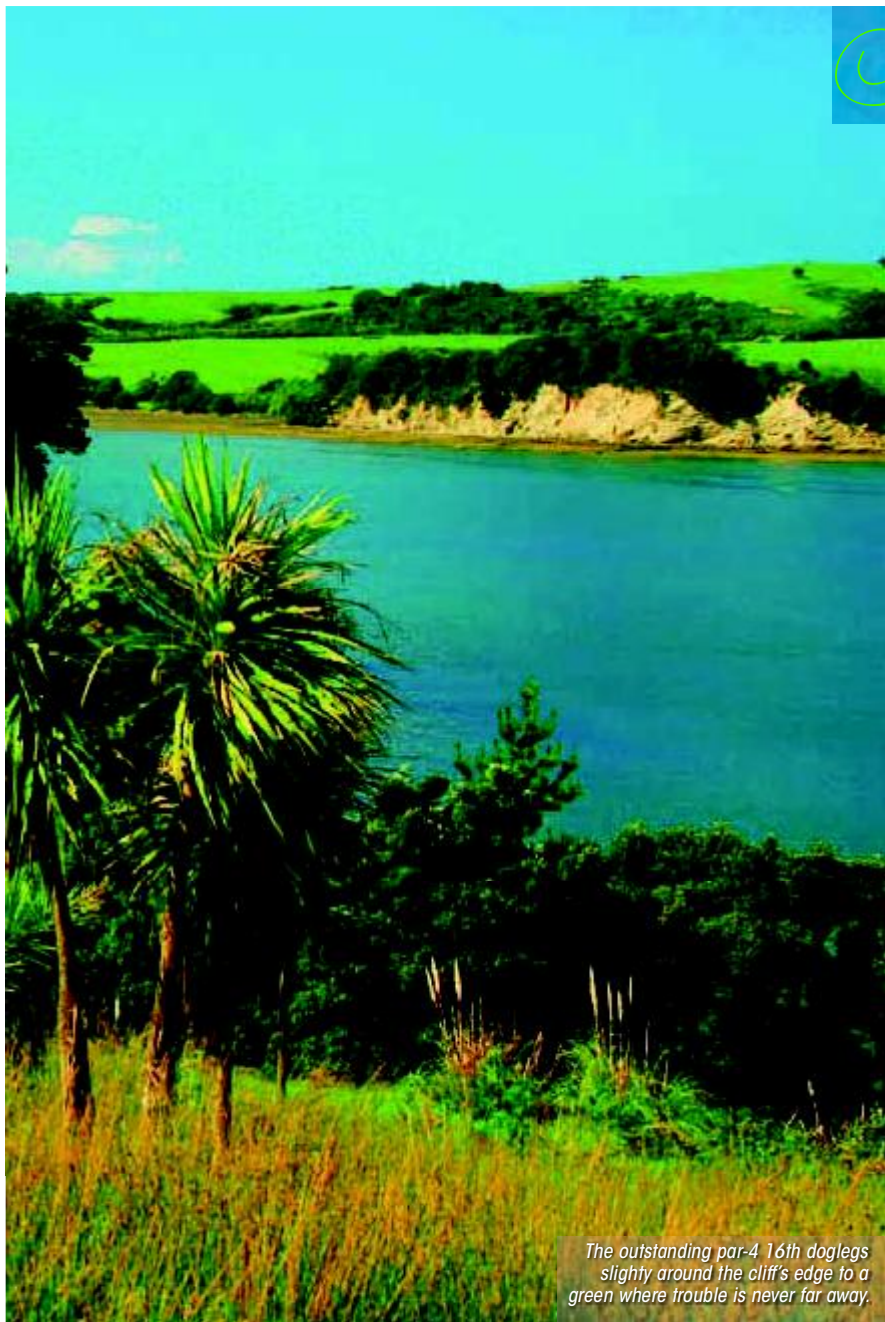
Visit or make a booking at www.kauricliffs.com or phone +64 9407 0060

PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES (TOP), SUPPLIED BY KAURI CLIFFS (LEFT); SUPPLIED BY NORTHLAND TOURISM X 3

THE BEST OF GOLF NEW ZEALAND



ABOVE: The long par-5 17th hole adds to the demanding nature of the closing holes. RIGHT: Don't overhit the par-3 15th or your ball will get wet.



The outstanding par-4 16th doglegs slightly around the cliff's edge to a green where trouble is never far away.



PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES X 3

More than 70 percent of international visitors to New Zealand enter the country via Auckland. If you plan to do so on your golfing holiday, chances are your first port of call will be the Gulf Harbour Country Club.

Gulf Harbour is just 35 minutes' drive north of Auckland on the tip of the Whangaparoa Peninsula, a location that is not only on good land for a golf course but it also offers views across Waitemata Harbour back to the City of Sails.

The best of these city and harbour views comes from behind Gulf Harbour's 11th green. But these postcard images are simply the entrée for the visual main course that is offered a few holes later as the layout winds its way out to and across the top of cliffs, before turning back inland to the clubhouse.

The layout was designed by renowned course architect Robert Trent Jones Jnr. If you like any of his Australian portfolio of courses (including Joondalup, Meadow Springs, Hyatt Coolum and the Old Course at The National), you will really enjoy Gulf Harbour.

Having hosted the 1998 World Cup of Golf, not long after opening, and two New Zealand Opens in 2005 and 2006, Gulf Harbour has been undergoing significant change, mainly off the course.

A bid by Gulf Harbour's members to take over the ownership of the club and course two months ago was successful. The new owners are now working hard to put Gulf Harbour back on the international visitor's map and are looking to take the golfing experience at Gulf Harbour to the next level through superior presentation to complement the quality Trent Jones' design. The course covers rolling terrain on the outward holes and becomes even more dramatic on the inward half. In fact, the back nine, in this writer's opinion, is worth the green fee alone.

The 15th is a downhill one-shotter with an ocean backdrop. The 405-metre par-4 16th is the hardest and best hole on the course. The sloping fairway is bordered by cliffs to the right, which is also the case on the 505-metre par-5 17th. Both holes require strong nerves to avoid leaking an errant shot into the ocean.

Heading back inland, the wide fairway of this long par-4 18th looks generous enough but a level lie – which is uncommon around this Trent Jones creation – for your second shot is rare, thus complicating what can be a long approach to a large elevated and undulating green.

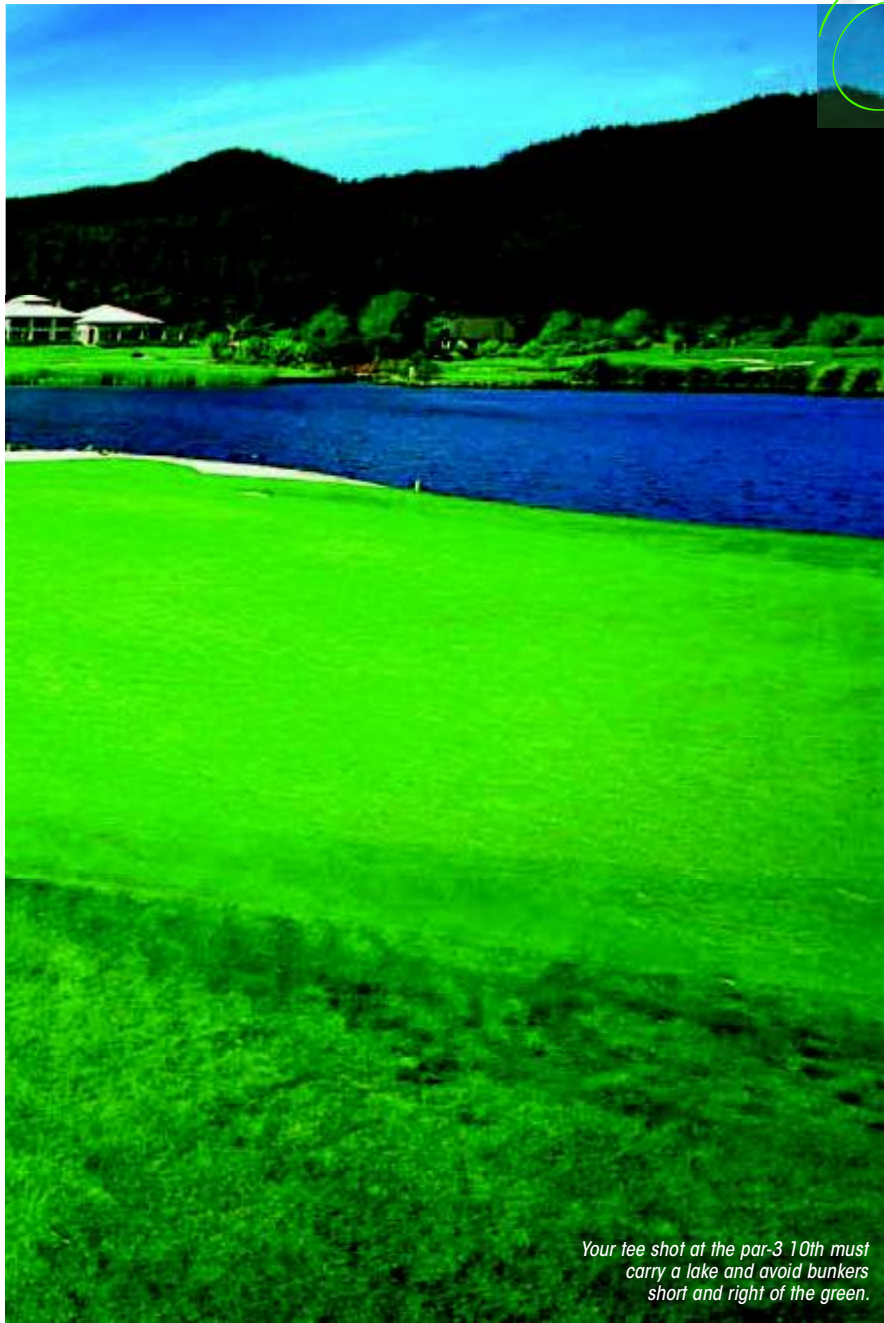
Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** Low season, NZ\$90 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$120 (non-affiliated); High season, NZ\$110 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$140 (non-affiliated). Price includes cart.
-  Nearest accommodation is the stylish Gulf Harbour Lodge that overlooks the magnificent marina.
-  Gulf Harbour is about a one-hour drive north from Auckland International airport.
-  By car, Gulf Harbour is 40 minutes' drive from Auckland's Harbour Bridge, via the Northern Motorway, Gulf Harbour is on Gulf Harbour Drive.
-  Visit the website www.gulpharbourcountryclub.co.nz or phone +64 9 424 0971.

Lakes Resort



ABOVE: The par-3 3rd hole brings water into play for the first time.
RIGHT: The large bunkering is also a standout feature of the Lakes Resort.



Your tee shot at the par-3 10th must carry a lake and avoid bunkers short and right of the green.



PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES X 3

The Coromandel Peninsula may be within 90 minutes' drive of downtown Auckland but it gives the impression of being a million miles away from the hustle and bustle of New Zealand's biggest city.

The mountainous peninsula is a bit off the beaten track for most international travelers but if you intend on discovering the delights of the Lakes Resort at Pauanui, you will never forget the incredibly picturesque drive, through Coromandel Forest Park on the Kopu Hikua Road, before you reach your golfing destination.

Pauanui is a beachside town but this course's location gives no clues of that. The layout, designed by the Canadian design company Sid Puddicombe Associates, opened for play in 2004 and covers the relatively flat, easy-walking valley floor wedged between pine forest-covered mountains.

As the name of the course suggests water is a factor here. In fact, apart from several lakes, there are extensive tracts of wetlands throughout the layout. One lengthy boardwalk through natural wetlands, between the 4th green and 5th tee, features tributes to the Maori.

The par-71 layout is not overly long at 6,171 metres from the back markers, but there are some very challenging holes for all players. Arguably the best hole on the front nine is the 394-metre par-4 2nd, which doglegs almost 90° right, through trees either side of the fairway, and up to a green that is guarded by four bunkers and is surrounded by mounds.

For mine, the best holes at Lakes Resort come into play on the back nine. The stretch of holes from the long par-4 12th to the visually intimidating par-5 17th are the most memorable. Of these I really liked the 403-metre par-4 14th – a dogleg left hole, with a fairway trap on the outside of the dogleg that forces you to think hard about your strategy from the tee. Long hitters using driver here can also bring water, lying beyond the fairway bunker, into play. I strongly suggest, from personal experience, taking the conservative approach here.

I found the greens at Lakes Resort superb. They had a good cover of Bent grass and the subtle undulations allowed for them to be trimmed short, providing a speedy putting experience.

The layout is the hub of a residential development but the housing does not encroach too far onto the course, which enhances your feeling of isolation.

Fact File...






-  **Green fees:** NZ\$89 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$120 (non-affiliated). **Carts:** NZ\$17 per person per cart.
-  Two- and three-bedroom villas adjacent to the course are available.
-  Auckland International airport is the closest major airport, about 80 minutes' drive away.
-  Lakes Resort Pauanui is 90 minutes' drive from Auckland and can be found on Augusta Drive, Pauanui.
-  Visit the website www.lakesresort.com or phone +64 7 864 9999.

Wairakei International

The short dogleg right 8th hole is one of Wairakei's most demanding holes. *Below:* In autumn, the surrounding pine forest creates a vivid backdrop to the lush green course.



Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** NZ\$150 (Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$200 (non-affiliated players). **Carts:** NZ\$40.
-  The Bayview Wairakei Resort, with 187 rooms and numerous facilities, is just one kilometre from the course. The world famous and spectacular Huka Lodge is just north of Taupo.
-  Taupo airport, with flights from Auckland, Wellington and Napier, is 16km from the course.
-  Wairakei is about three and a half hours' drive south of Auckland and just over four hours north of Wellington and can be found on State Highway 1.
-  Visit the website www.wairakeigolfcourse.co.nz or phone +64 7 374 8152.

Wairakei International is New Zealand's original resort course and was, as recently as 1996, ranked by one American magazine as being among the top-20 courses in the world outside of the United States.

The layout was built in 1970 by the New Zealand government's Tourist Hotel Corporation as part of its plan to attract international visitors, and golfers, to the Lake Taupo area, less than five minutes' drive away.

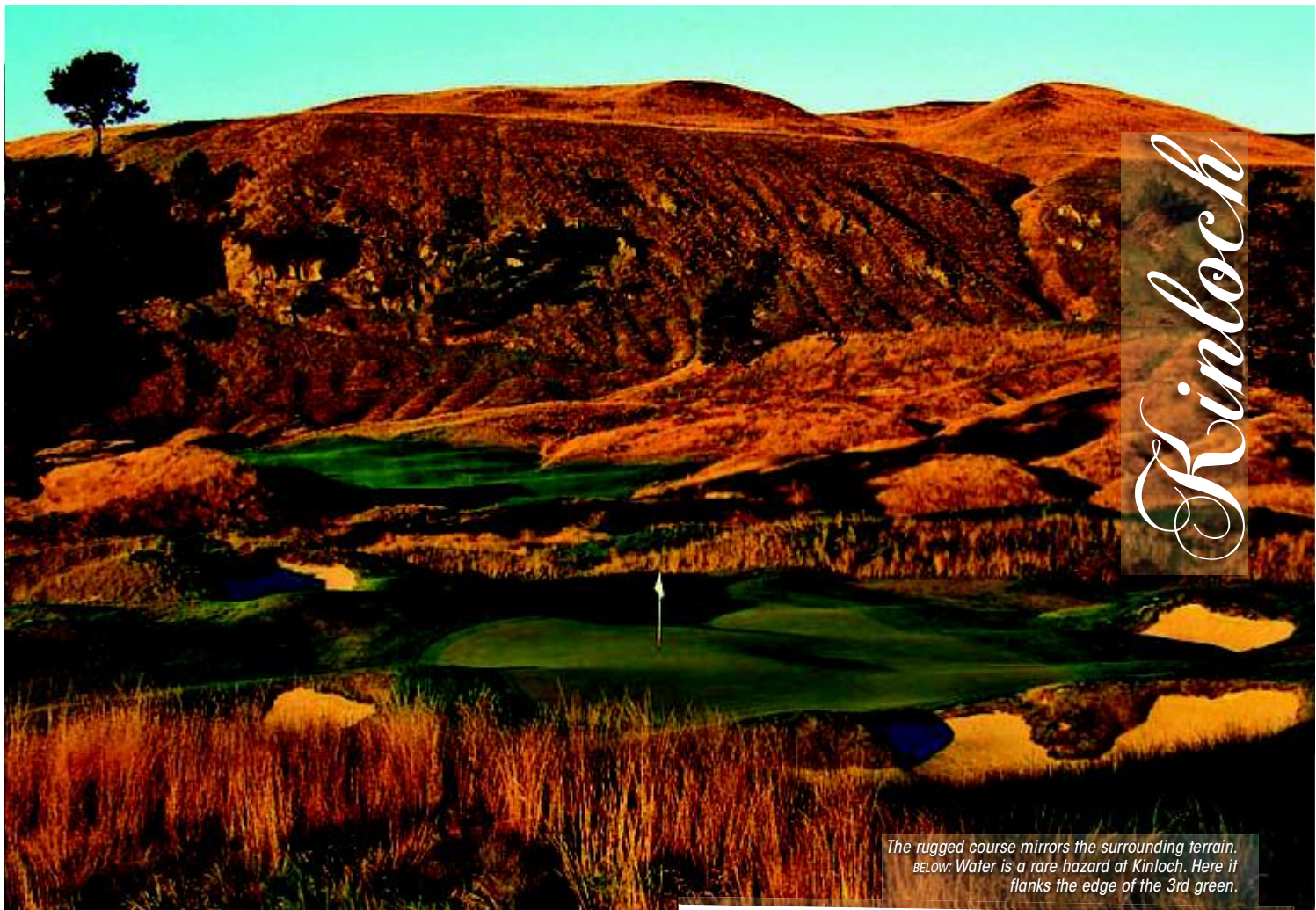
Course designer Commander John Harris collaborated with five-time British Open champion Peter Thomson and then US Tour player, Mike Wolveridge, on their first ever project.

The course was later sold to a Japanese company before a syndicate of Kiwi businessmen, all keen golfers, bought the layout back in 1997. Thomson and Wolveridge were then asked to come back and remodel the course the way it had originally been planned. This included adding new bunkers and turning ugly grassed gullies into the water hazards – some complete with waterfalls – they were meant to be originally.

Wairakei has since matured into a visually striking and challenging layout. Set in a valley surrounded by pine forest covered mountains, the layout is immaculately presented and complements a superb design that I certainly rate among Thomson and Wolveridge's best works.

The terrain becomes more dramatic away from the clubhouse as the holes reach into the surrounding foothills, while the bunkering throughout is not overdone. All the greenside bunkers are steep faced and lined with the trunks of native punga ferns.

The strategy-based design of the layout, complemented by terrific conditioning and picturesque scenery, makes Wairakei a challenging and really enjoyable course to play.



Kinloch

The rugged course mirrors the surrounding terrain.
BELOW: Water is a rare hazard at Kinloch. Here it flanks the edge of the 3rd green.

For all the courses Jack Nicklaus has designed around the world, his Mona Lisa lies a long way from home in the heart of New Zealand's North Island.

I have had the privilege of playing many of the Golden Bear's courses and Kinloch – about 20 minutes' drive from Taupo – is his best creation.

This links layout is a real departure from Nicklaus' trademark design style. Instead of his typical American parkland style course, Nicklaus has aimed to create a Scottish links. The bunkering is rugged and varies greatly in shape, depth and size, while the rolling fairways of the front nine become more dramatic in their elevation change. The course, which opened for 18-hole play last December, is laid out beneath a steep cattle covered range and it is easy to see that Nicklaus has tried to reflect the rugged nature of the range into his creation.

In this writer's opinion there are no weak holes at Kinloch. There are several holes that will live long in the memory – the 5th and 6th are two dynamic short par-4s, while the 512-metre 8th will, over time, gain a reputation for being one of the best par-5s in New Zealand. The driving zone is flanked by sand and then the fairway splits in two providing a high and low route to the green.

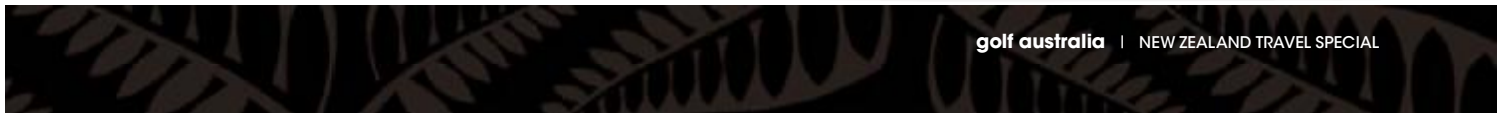
On the back nine, the par-4 13th is an absolute gem, as is the par-3 17th which is arguably the toughest of Kinloch's one-shotters as it calls for a long shot to a green that is protected by a bunker left and features steep drop-off slopes short, long and right.

A new clubhouse overlooking the course is planned as a boutique lodge, to be called Jack's Lodge. Kinloch is now part of a worldwide selection of Golden Bear-designed courses that are to be known as Jack's 25 Club.



Fact File...

- Green fees:** Low season (May 1–November 30), NZ\$160 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$210 (non-affiliated); High season (December 1–April 30), NZ\$175 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$235 (non-affiliated). **Carts:** From NZ\$40.
- The Bayview Wairakei Resort and the world class Huka Lodge, both north of Taupo, are within 30 minutes' drive of the course.
- Taupo airport, with flights from Auckland, Wellington and Napier, is 16km from the course.
- Kinloch is about 25 minutes' drive from Taupo, which is three and a half hours' drive south of Auckland and just over four hours north of Wellington.
- For details or bookings visit www.kinloch-golf.com or phone +64 7 377 8484.



Cape Kidnappers



The fingers of narrow land containing several back nine holes reach out into the Pacific Ocean.
BELOW LEFT: The brilliant par-4 16th leads the return to the clubhouse.



Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** High season (October 1 – April 30), NZ\$225 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$400 (non-affiliated). Low season (May 1 – September 30), NZ\$180 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$300 (non-affiliated); **Carts:** NZ\$35. Caddies are available by arrangement.
-  The Farm at Cape Kidnappers is on-site and offers panoramic views of the course and ocean. There is a main lodge, 18 additional five-star suites as well as the four-bedroom Owner's Cottage, all a short walk from the lodge.
-  There are at least eight scheduled flights per day from Auckland or Wellington to Napier Airport.
-  Cape Kidnappers is just south of Napier on New Zealand's North Island south east coast. Napier about six hours' drive from Auckland and four hours from Wellington. Allow 10 minutes for the driveway journey to the clubhouse.
-  For bookings visit the website www.capekidnappers.com or phone +64 6 873 1018.

It was during a trip to Tasmania in 2005 that I was first given an insight into what has become one of the golf world's most talked about courses. While walking the then newly opened Barnbougle Dunes course with its American designer, Tom Doak, he urged me to cross the ditch and play his other new course.

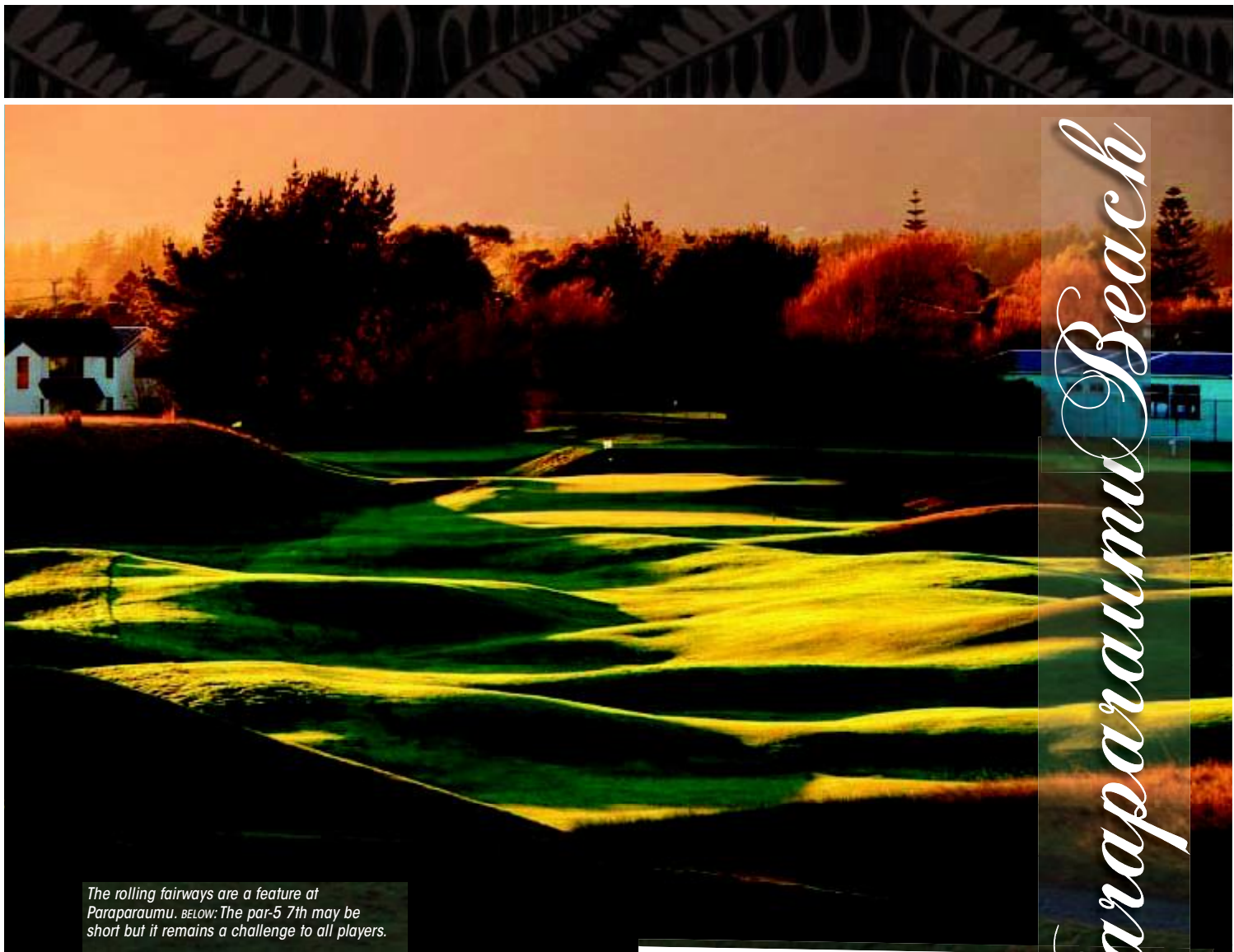
"If you like Barnbougle, you will love Cape Kidnappers," he revealed. "Cape Kidnappers is on such a rare piece of land that designers either wait a lifetime to work with or never get the chance at all."

Now, having finally cashed in my rain check to visit the layout, I know why it is listed in the world's top-50 courses and continues to climb through the ranks. Any designer could have put their name to a decent course in this spectacular location on cliff tops south of Napier. But owner, Julian Robertson (who also developed Kauri Cliffs), pulled off a masterstroke in commissioning Doak to craft Cape Kidnappers.

Doak's minimalist design draws plenty out of the location and provides each golfer who tees it up with a thrill ride they will never forget. Faced with having to route the course along, and across, fingers of land surrounded by jagged cliffs that stretch 150 metres (500 feet) above the ocean, Doak has created holes that are not only playable (nearly all the long holes play with the prevailing wind) but are a lot of fun to play.

One such hole is the 594-metre (for the tips) par-5 15th, which, from aerial photographs, looks about as narrow as the winding eight kilometre driveway that leads through hills and gorges from the road to the clubhouse. But there is ample room off the tee to land your drive but the fairway gradually narrows the closer you get to the putting surface. By the time you reach the green, there is a 150-metre drop into the ocean left and 30-metre plunge down to the next fairway to the right.

PHOTOS: SUPPLIED BY CAPE KIDNAPPERS (TOP LEFT).
GETTY IMAGES (LEFT); SUPPLIED BY PARAPARIMU BEACH GC X 2



Paraparaumu Beach

The rolling fairways are a feature of Paraparaumu. BELOW: The par-5 7th may be short but it remains a challenge to all players.

Tom Doak, whilst being a great designer, also has a trained eye for great courses. He, like his collaborative designer on Barnbogle Dunes, Mike Clayton, hold Paraparaumu Beach in the highest esteem.

Doak has even listed Paraparaumu (*pronounced Para-param*) in his top-14 links courses in the world, alongside the likes of the Old Course at St Andrews, Royal County Down, Royal Dornoch and Ballybunion.

Designed by Alister Mackenzie's Australian protege Alex Russell (Royal Melbourne East and Lake Karrynup) in 1949, Paraparaumu covers rugged, windswept dunesland and, despite the encroachment on its borders of the surrounding beachside suburb, has changed very little since. But it became apparent during the 2002 New Zealand Open – when Tiger Woods made his first appearance in the country – some of the layout's links character had been lost.






Superior presentation and changes to the set-up of the course during the past few years have recaptured that character. Course superintendent Leo Barber is a keen student of the game and under his guidance green surrounds have been closely shaved to place a premium on greater accuracy. These tight cropped areas drop steeply off the edge of firm elevated greens. Several deep bunkers around the course have been revetted, making them formidable hazards.

Some of the best holes are on the inward nine with the par-4 17th being a standout. The hole features a split fairway where you can shorten the hole by using the right fairway, but this leaves a harder second shot to a green that sits diagonally to the approach. Driving left leaves a long more straightforward shot to a green sloping away left, right and back.

Fans of traditional links courses will simply love Paraparaumu Beach. ▶



Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** NZ\$55 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$110 (non-affiliated). **Carts:** NZ\$35.
-  There are a selection of motels and lodges close to the golf course.
-  Wellington Airport is serviced by domestic and international flights.
-  The course is just 50 minutes' drive north of Wellington via State Highway.
-  Visit the website www.paraparaumubeachgolfclub.co.nz or phone +64 4 902 8216.



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South Island

If the North Island is the land of fire and steam, the South Island is certainly the land of water and ice.

Ice Ages, fault lines and tectonic plate movements have all made their mark on New Zealand, especially the South Island, which is home to the majestic Southern Alps, a network of fiords, like Milford Sound (*pictured*), and several glaciers that continue to march down into rainforest.

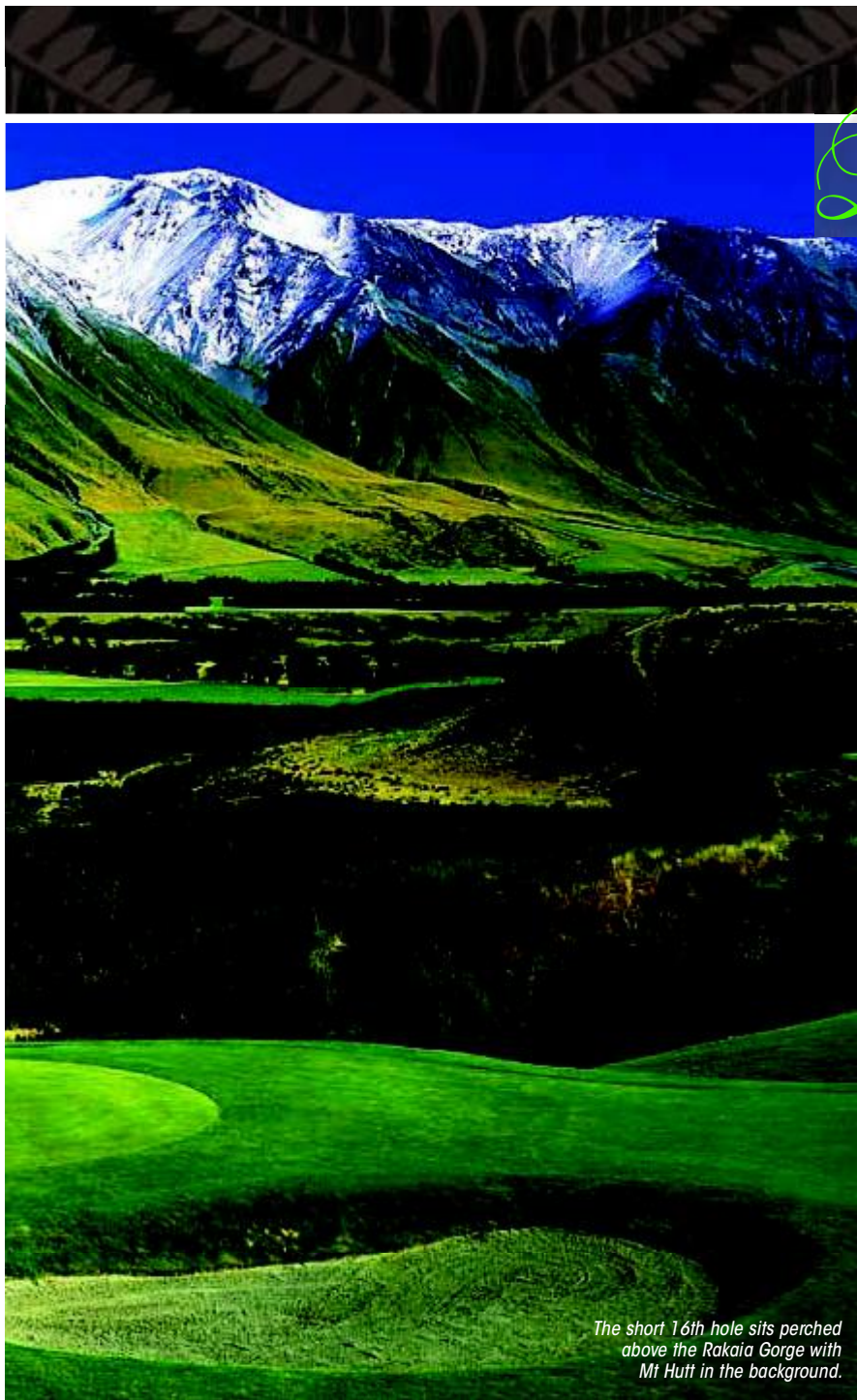
The South Island is also the birthplace of New Zealand golf, where Scottish immigrants likened the land to the links of home and, as they did in America and Australia, began teaching the locals about golf. Today, the game has spread its wings throughout New Zealand to include more than 400 courses. ▶

THE BEST OF GOLF NEW ZEALAND

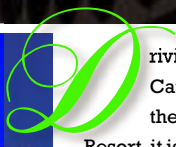
Terrace Downs



ABOVE: Heading for home, the par-5 18th is a terrific driving hole.
RIGHT: The sun sets over Mt Hutt and the green on the par-4 11th hole.



The short 16th hole sits perched above the Rakaia Gorge with Mt Hutt in the background.



Driving west across the flat farmland of the Canterbury Plains from Christchurch toward the luxurious Terrace Downs High Country Resort, it is hard to imagine the rolling landscape that is home to this course.

The 6,440-metre layout, designed by David Cox from the Canadian Sid Puddicombe design group (which also crafted the Lakes Resort), is nestled on the edge of the Rakaia Gorge at the base of majestic Mt Hutt and features 11 lakes and more than 70 well-placed bunkers.

The easy walking front nine is laid out in a loop north of the clubhouse. The most demanding hole on this outward half is also the longest hole on the course – the 551-metre par-5 7th. Thankfully there are four sets of tees to choose from as this is a genuine three-shotter for all players. The hole turns gradually from right to left before dipping onto a lower terrace and past a lake to the right and two bunkers left.

Water comes into play on four holes of the back nine, which is slightly more undulating than on the outward. The tightest and most challenging of these water holes is the pencil-thin dogleg left par-4 11th, which squeezes between two lakes en route to a green near the edge of the Rakaia Gorge.

But it is not until the 130-metre par-3 16th hole that the gorge really comes into play. A tee shot across the edge of the gorge, with a drop of more than 150 metres down to the Rakaia River below is just right of the putting surface. There is a bail-out area back left of the green but it is recommended to take dead aim for the heart of the green. Complicating this task is the swirling wind coming up the gorge, which can hamper successful club selection.

Terrace Downs is to undergo a multi-million dollar development program after it was purchased by New Zealand interests from a Japanese company in December 2007.

New resort owners, Jonathan Hendriksen and Tim Williams have a vision for the resort, to complement the luxurious accommodation facilities and quality golf course, by including other activities including archery, equestrian, jet boating as well as clay pigeon shooting.

The course alone will have me driving back across the Plains again sooner rather than later.

Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** NZ\$70 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$120 (non-affiliated). **Carts:** NZ\$40 per cart.
-  Terrace Downs offers a choice of two deluxe accommodation options – Terrace Villa suites and Fairway Chalets. The 45 Villa suites are self-contained one- to three-bedroom suites while the chalets are architecturally designed houses spread out amongst the front nine holes of the course with views over the layout to Mt Hutt.
-  Christchurch Airport is serviced by domestic and international flights.
-  The resort is 70 minutes' drive west from downtown Christchurch via State Highway 73 and is found on Coleridge Rd, Windwhistle.
-  For bookings, visit the website www.terracedowns.co.nz or phone +64 3 318 6943.

PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES X 2 (LEFT); SUPPLIED BY TERRACE DOWNS (TOP)

Clearwater Resort



Clearwater's 18th hole has been designed to create high drama, especially under tournament conditions. LEFT: Resort accommodation overlooks lakes and the course.



The Clearwater Resort is one of the more recognisable golf courses among those showcased here, thanks in no small part to it being the host of the Nationwide Tour co-sanctioned Clearwater Classic and New Zealand PGA Championship.

Clearwater, which opened in 2002, was the second major collaboration of designer John Darby, in consultation with former British Open champion Sir Bob Charles, having already completed the Millbrook Resort near Queenstown.






The layout stretches to 6,526 metres and covers relatively flat terrain and features several man-made lakes that receive input from natural springs. Several of the ponds that are scattered around the course look very inviting (for a dip) with such clear water you can see the sandy bottom, giving rise to the name of the resort.

The design is memorable and I was really impressed with the par-3s, with water coming into play on all four. For mine, the best of these is the shortest of the bunch – the 155-metre 4th hole. From the slightly elevated tees, there is no trouble hidden from view. The tee shot must carry a clear water lake and wetland as well as a large beachside bunker in front of the wide but shallow putting surface.

The most challenging hole at Clearwater is one designed to present high drama. The 407-metre par-4 closing hole is flanked by a massive lake down the left edge of the fairway and two bunkers right narrow the visual look of the driving zone. The lake also wraps around the back of the green, so any approach must be high and accurate.

The condition of the course is also outstanding. Of note, are the Egmont Bent greens which were brilliant. Its no wonder the resort continues to be a popular venue for the NZ PGA.

Fact File...

-  **Green fees:** NZ\$80 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$130 (non-affiliated).
- Carts:** NZ\$40.
-  Peppers offers modern guest rooms, suites and villas in a contemporary boathouse design. There are also spacious two-bedroom Terrace Apartments each with a cosy fireplace as well as lake and fairway views.
-  Christchurch Airport, serviced by domestic and international flights, is just five minutes' drive away.
-  Close to the airport, the resort is just a further 15 minutes from the centre of Christchurch, off Johns Rd.
-  For bookings and further details visit www.clearwaternz.com or phone +64 3 360 2146.

PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES X 2



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Here you'll find a course to suit every level - Millbrook with 27 interchangeable holes designed by pro golfers, the new 18-hole championship course at Jack's Point, stunning Kelvin Heights jutting out into Lake Wakatipu, technically challenging Arrowtown and a nine-hole option in Frankton.

Whatever you choose, whatever your style, doing it in Queenstown will feed your imagination and revitalise your spirits. Start planning your Queenstown golf experience now.

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Queenstown
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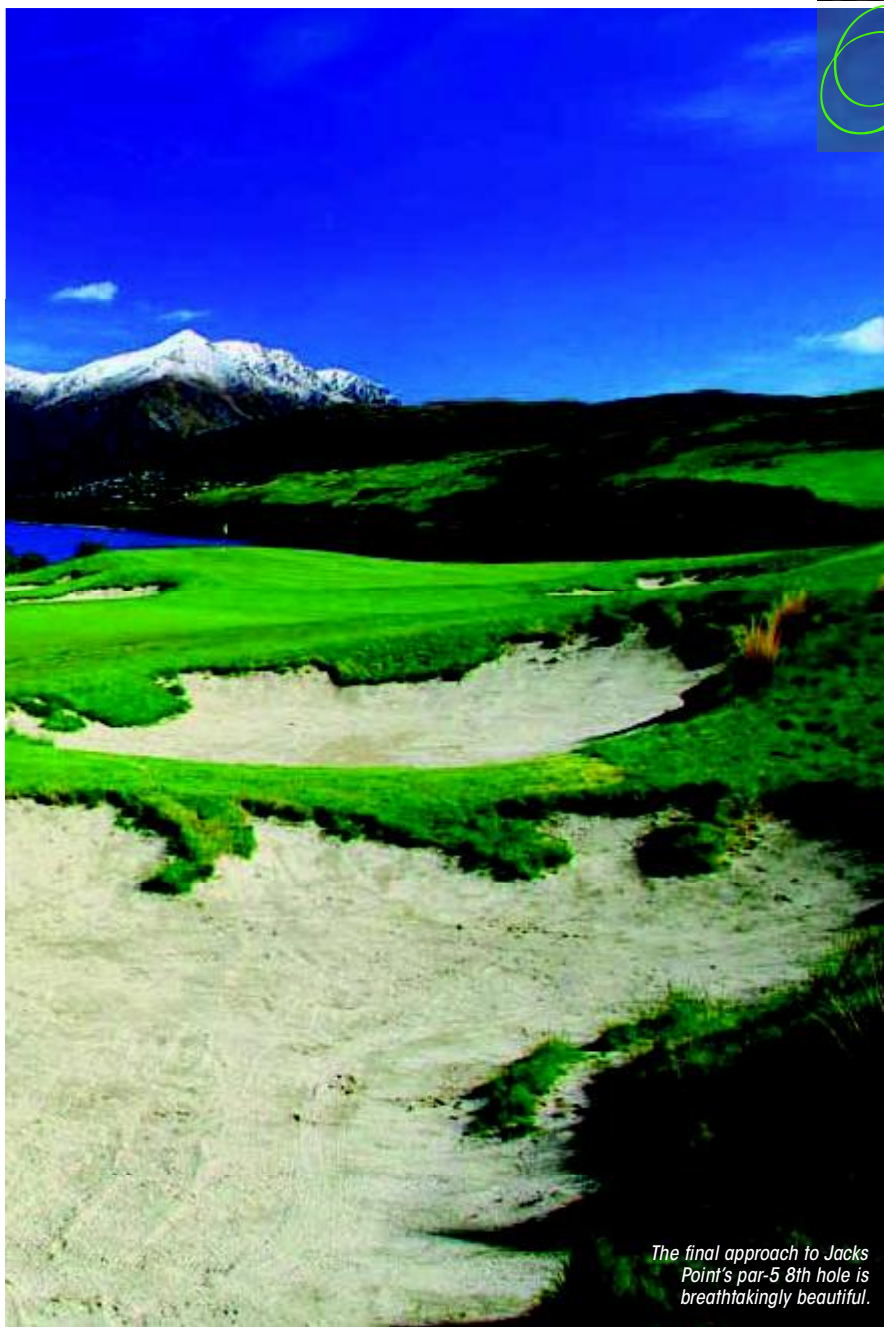
OFFICIAL CARD OF DESTINATION QUEENSTOWN



Sacks Point



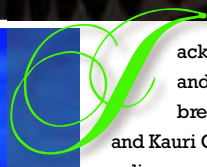
ABOVE: The Remarkables mountain range forms the backdrop to several back nine holes. RIGHT: Short but sweet, the downhill par-3 7th is a gem.



The final approach to Jacks Point's par-5 8th hole is breathtakingly beautiful.



PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES X 3



Jacks Point is New Zealand's newest course and is destined to be mentioned in the same breath as world renowned Cape Kidnappers and Kauri Cliffs as more people – local and abroad – discover its delights.

Laid out over dramatically undulating terrain between The Remarkables mountain range and the cliff tops above Lake Wakatipu, Jacks Point is a spectacular golf course in equally spectacular surrounds.

The course is the latest design of John Darby, who also recently created the private The Hills Golf Club at nearby Arrowtown. While The Hills has gained some attention as host of the New Zealand Open, Jacks Point, in my opinion, will become the yardstick by which all Darby's future creations will be measured. Jacks Point is simply outstanding.

From the clubhouse, the holes weave out and over a ridge to bring the lake into full view. The rugged nature of the landscape becomes apparent early in the round with large boulders dotting the edge of holes and huge rocks peaking through the slopes of mounds and steep banks, which are often covered with unwelcoming clumps of thorny bushes.

Darby's routing also skirts sheep grazing paddocks that have been enclosed by hand made rock (quarried from the site) walls, which were obviously inspired by the walls that criss-cross some traditional links courses in Scotland and Ireland.

The first panoramic view of the lake comes as you stand on the 7th tee – a fabulous short and steep downhill par-3 that features two bunkers well before the putting surface but the visual illusion from the tee places them much closer to the green. No more than an 8-iron is required to find the green that is perched high on a bluff above the lake.

The following hole is a terrific par-5 that has become one of the course's signature holes. The fairway of the 487-metre 8th climbs gradually uphill to a massive green that, again, sits just beside the edge of a cliff and offers sensational views across the lake toward Queenstown and the surrounding mountains.

Jacks Point will not officially open for play until March 2009 but green fee players are currently being welcomed to sample the wonderful layout.

Jacks Point is part of a massive residential and resort development. In fact, it's the largest parcel of land to be comprehensively developed by one entity in New Zealand history. In all, 1,800 homes, 600 visitor apartments and a 150-room luxury hotel are planned for the site.

Fact File...

Green fees: High season NZ\$60 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$110 (non-affiliated); Low season NZ\$50 (NZGA/Golf Australia affiliated players), NZ\$70 (non-affiliated).

Hotel/Resort: A hotel/resort is planned for the Jacks Point site.

Airport: Queenstown airport is just five minutes' drive from the course.

Location: Close to the airport, Jacks Point is just a further 10 minutes' from the centre of Queenstown, off State Highway 6.

Bookings: For bookings and more details visit www.jackspoint.com or phone +64 3 450 2050.

THE BEST OF GOLF NEW ZEALAND

Millbrook Resort



ABOVE: The downhill 13th is the best of Millbrook's par-3s. RIGHT: Millbrook is laid out in an amphitheatre created by the surrounding alpine landscape.



A wide variety of colourful trees are scattered throughout the picturesque layout.



PHOTOS: BRENDAN JAMES X 3

The stunning landscape seen by millions of people all over the world in the film trilogy, *The Lord of the Rings*, forms the backdrop to all the holes at Millbrook Resort. In fact, the Arrow River, which is walking distance from the resort, is where Arwen carried the dying Frodo across the river on horseback to escape the marauding Black Riders.

Designed by Sir Bob Charles, in collaboration with John Darby, Millbrook covers easy walking, gently undulating land that is in stark contrast to the surrounding mountainous landscape that create an alpine amphitheatre.

The course is well manicured with its Egmont Brown Top Bent greens being first class and speedy enough to present nervous moments putting downhill.

Many of the fairways are sparsely flanked by a wide variety of alpine trees like sycamore, oak, sugar maple, elm, ash, Douglas fir and flowering cherry, which burst into vivid colours in autumn.

While the layout measures 6,420 metres from the back markers, it is not a penal course, with wide driving zones and large receptive greens being the order of the day. That said, there are plenty of challenges for accomplished players as well as the casual player, who can choose from a further three teeing grounds provided per hole.

Millbrook has some memorable holes and, for mine, the par-3s all rate highly. Water is a major factor on the closing holes, with the redesigned par-5 18th set to become another of Millbrook's signature holes. Former Kiwi Tour player turned course designer Greg Turner has remodelled the final hole by pushing the green back nearly 50 metres to the edge of a pond, creating a semi-island green.

The redesign of the closing hole and the creation and remodelling of more than 40 bunkers on the Millbrook course is just part of the construction work that has been carried out at the resort recently. A third nine holes, designed by Turner, was nearing completion at the time of writing and is destined to add a new dimension to the golf facilities at Millbrook.

The new nine, which is part of a new residential development, will integrate with the existing course to offer three interchangeable nine-hole courses. The Turner course, known as the Coronet nine, covers more undulating land and the bunkering has a more dynamic and intimidating appearance.

Fact File...

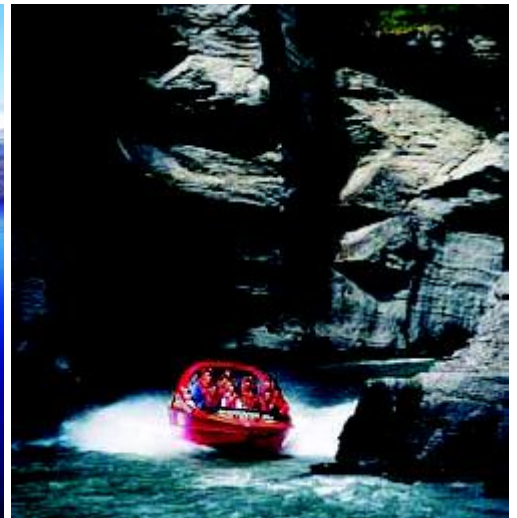
Green fees: High season NZ\$85 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$165 (non-affiliated), NZ\$70 (in-house guest unlimited per day); Low season NZ\$85 (NZGA affiliated players), NZ\$115 (non-affiliated), NZ\$60 (in-house guest unlimited per day). **Carts:** NZ\$46 (twin share)

Millbrook Resort has beautifully appointed, superior rooms, suites and villas designed to complement the style of the region. They feature luxurious appointments like super-king-size beds (twin configuration available), deep baths and balconies.

Queenstown airport is 20 minutes' drive from the resort.

From Queenstown, follow the signs to Arrowtown. The resort is just off Malaghans Rd, about five minutes' drive from the centre of Arrowtown.

For bookings or details visit www.millbrook.co.nz or phone +64 3 441 7000.



INSPIRATIONAL QUEENSTOWN

Queenstown has an international reputation as a year-round playground where you can meet the great outdoors to enjoy relaxation, rejuvenation, adventure and action. With the immense range of activities on offer, be sure to make time for a non-golf day to discover and take in the mountainous region from above by plane, helicopter or hot air balloon.

It's not all about testing gravity with bungee jumps, swings and skydives – try a round of frisbee golf in the gardens, a rejuvenating spa under the stars or a glass of award-winning pinot noir.

Walking trails are a great way to get back to nature and Fiordland and Mt Aspiring National Parks are home to some of the world's greatest hiking and views.

Get out onto the waters of Lake Wakatipu with a boat ride, some sailing or enjoy a jet-fuelled exhilarating ride surrounded by an imposing landscape. Other water pursuits guaranteed to revive your senses include river boarding, rafting, waterskiing, kayaking or parasailing.

This region has a rich heritage easily explored by a visit to Arrowtown's Lakes District Museum or stroll through picturesque streets paying attention to

buildings and relics of a gold mining history.

The visually inspiring Queenstown region has courses to appeal to every level of golfer.

The Sir Bob Charles-designed course at Millbrook has had an extensive upgrade, and the addition of the new Coronet Nine, designed by Greg Turner, means the course now features 27 interchangeable holes. A covered driving range with six individual hitting bays adds to its world-class golfing facilities.

The new Jacks Point 18-hole international course has sweeping lake and alpine vistas with a 360-degree mountainscape. The 18-hole par-72 golf course, designed by John Darby, is bounded by The Remarkables mountain range and Lake Wakatipu. It traverses through wetland to the lake edge encountering steep bluffs, indigenous vegetation and wildlife.

And don't forget to take a look at the stunning Kelvin Heights course jutting out into Lake Wakatipu, Arrowtown's popular and technically challenging course and Frankton's quick nine-hole option.

The region's largest golfing event, the Michael Hill New Zealand Golf Open will again be played near Queenstown in March 2009.



[For more details about Queenstown visit the comprehensive regional tourism website at www.queenstown-nz.co.nz]





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TOURING AROUND NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is well serviced by quality golf holiday tour operators, who will take the hassle out of organising tee times, finding nearby accommodation and packaging in sightseeing adventures. Many offer self-drive packages, which are great and allow you to travel at your own pace and perhaps discover a few more courses than the great ones we have presented over the preceding pages.

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ANZGolf has the experience to make your New Zealand golfing dreams come true.

For the past 25 years, ANZGolf has been providing luxury golfing tours, in both Australia and New Zealand, for groups and customised itineraries for independent travellers.

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[For further details, contact ANZGolf's John Lister on free call 1800 140 286, email: john@anzgolf.co.nz or visit www.golfaustralianewzealand.com]

GREENFERNZ

With New Zealand fast developing a reputation for being one of the greatest golf destinations in the world, Greenfernz has embarked on making significant investments into golf tourism during the past five years. For example, such an investment is Dunalistair House (www.dunalistair.com), a recently completed property alongside The Kinloch Club – the only Jack Nicklaus signature course in New Zealand.

Alistair Tod, Greenfernz CEO, says: "We guarantee our clients will liaise with the same travel consultant throughout the planning stage, which we have found has resulted in a unique relationship between ourselves and our clients."

[For more information go to www.greenfernz.com or call toll free on 1800 420 096.]

GREEN REALM TRAVEL

Green Realm Travel's New Zealand luxury golf tours are designed to offer the ultimate golfing holiday as well as experiencing the best food, wine, scenery and activities New Zealand has to offer.

From the time you arrive in New Zealand and are met off your aircraft (pictured below right) until the time you depart, you will be in their care. Catering to group sizes from four to 18 people, Green Realm Travel can provide tailor-made golf tours.

Green Realm Travel has nine golf tour itineraries to choose from including Golfer's Dream tours of the North and South Island, or more localised tours operating out of Auckland, Christchurch and Queenstown.

[To book, call Green Realm on 1800 103 871 or visit www.greenrealmtravel.com]

KIRRA TOURS

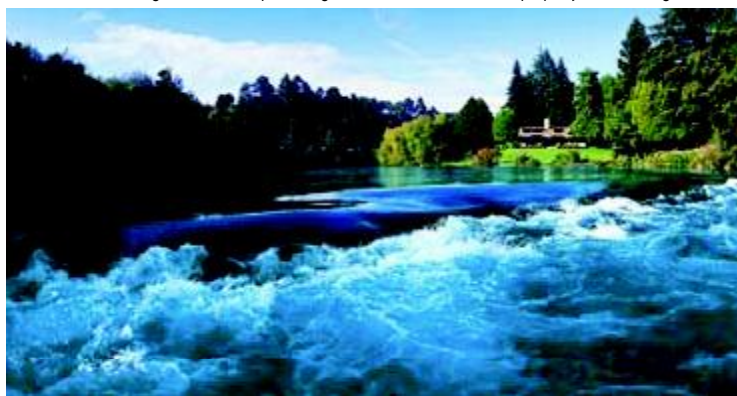
Kirra Tours has developed a range of fantastic itineraries to suit players of all levels incorporating the best of New Zealand's resort courses, championship layouts and some local clubs with a selection of premier sightseeing activities.

The company's independent self-drive golf breaks and short stays will certainly give you plenty of choice. You can travel at your own pace and explore the country with the added benefit of a round at some of New Zealand's great golf courses.

[For details, visit www.kirratours.co.nz or call the Australian office on 1800 007 373.]

LUXURY VACATIONS NZ

Are you looking to visit New Zealand and want to experience the best holiday you can imagine? Whether you're a golf fanatic, want to learn to play or just love the game,



Luxury Vacations New Zealand offers packages around New Zealand for golfers, non-playing partners and small golfing groups.

You can choose from one of their pre-planned itineraries or let their team of experts design a personalised proposal just for you, perhaps combining some unforgettable rounds of golf with some of the other amazing experiences on offer.

[For a selection of golf vacation itineraries visit the website www.luxuryvacationsnz.com, email: travel@luxuryvacationsnz.com or call +64 9 537 2325.]

PAR NZ GOLFING HOLIDAYS

Regarded as one of the leaders in the New Zealand golf travel industry, PaR nz Golfing Holidays specialise in New Zealand golf vacations, tours and travel, amateur golf events as well as successfully managing corporate events and programs. The company is also linked to the national amateur body, NZ Golf Incorporated, making it best placed to showcase New Zealand.

PaR nz Golfing Holidays works with the leading resort courses – Cape Kidnappers, Kauri Cliffs, Clearwater, Wairakei International and Millbrook – to offer individual packages, while holidays can be tailored.

[For more information on New Zealand golf packages visit www.parnz.co.nz or phone toll free from Australia +1800 018 575.]

WHERE TO STAY

Many of the courses showcased in this feature offer accommodation within a pitching wedge of the 1st tee. But if you are travelling around the country there are also plenty of other luxurious options to choose from.

BAYVIEW WAIRAKEI RESORT

The English translation of the word 'Wairakei' means adorning waters. Golfers would definitely find it ironic then that Bayview Wairakei Resort, originally developed as a thermal spa retreat, has its very own nine-hole golf course – a playground for keen golfers whose enemy is water.

Located about 10km from the famous Lake Taupo on the North Island, the Bayview Wairakei Resort (pictured right) is a golfer's paradise. There are four 18-hole golf courses within 15 minutes' drive of the resort including Jack Nicklaus' signature Kinloch course, while the renowned Wairakei International is a stone's throw away.

[To book, visit the website www.wairakei.co.nz or call the resort on +64 7 374 8021.]

CARRINGTON RESORT

This Northland resort recently joined the Heritage Hotel hotel group. The resort has 10 luxury lodge rooms and 14 self-contained three-bedroom villas, all with stunning views, plus an exclusive conference venue suitable for up to 100 people.

[Visit www.heritagehotels.co.nz/Carrington-Resort or call +64 9 302 1277.]

HUKA LODGE

This iconic New Zealand lodge lies peacefully within 17 acres of manicured grounds beside the hypnotic turquoise green waters of the Waikato River in Taupo.

Famed for its unrivalled location and generous hospitality since the 1920s, Huka Lodge offers 18 Lodge Rooms, one suite, the exclusive four-bedroom Owner's Cottage (pictured bottom left) and, opening in December 2008, the Alan Pye Cottage with two bedrooms. Every last detail has been considered to ensure guests enjoy superb cuisine, seamless service and every comfort while Huka Lodge proudly takes its place as one of the world's finest retreats – its reputation and awards all richly deserved.

[For more information visit www.hukaretreats.com or call +64 7 378 5791.]

LAKES RESORT PAUANUI

Two- and three-bedroom luxury villas are available while the resort offers short and long stay packages. The villas feature spacious open-plan lounge/dining areas with gas fires and fully equipped kitchens and laundries for added convenience.

[For more information visit www.lakesresort.com or phone +64 7 864 5100.]

MILLBROOK RESORT

Millbrook has beautifully appointed, superior rooms, suites and villas that are designed to complement the style of the region and feature luxurious appointments like super-king-size beds, deep baths and balconies. Cottages and fairway homes are also available, especially for longer stays.

Millbrook offers a range of value-add packages to make your stay an enjoyable one. Whether it is the pursuit of luxurious accommodation, breathtaking golf, the essence of relaxation at the spa or exceptional cuisine, Millbrook delivers it all.

[For more information visit www.millbrook.co.nz or call +64 3 441 7000.]



PEPPERS CLEARWATER RESORT

Peppers Clearwater Resort has elegant accommodation positioned around the clear lakes adjoining the golf course. The modern suites and villas offer guests privacy and comfort, with all the facilities you'd expect from premium resort accommodation.

[For more information visit www.peppers.co.nz or call +64 3 360 1009.]

TERRACE DOWNS HIGH COUNTRY RESORT

Terrace Downs offers a choice of two deluxe accommodation options. Terrace Villa Suites are self-contained units with luxurious beds, a delightful raised spa bath and spacious open-plan living areas. There are 45 Villa suites available.

[For details visit www.terracedowns.co.nz or call +64 3 318 6943.]

THE LODGE AT KAURI CLIFFS

Kauri Cliffs consists of 11 outlying guest cottages, each with two guest suites. Every suite offers its own private porch, comfortable bedroom with sitting area and open fireplace, walk-in his-and-hers wardrobes and a bathroom with a shower, bathtub and his-and-hers vanities.

[For further details visit www.kauricliffs.com or call +64 9 407 0010.]

THE FARM AT CAPE KIDNAPPERS

The Farm at Cape Kidnappers is an international award-winning luxury golf spa resort located on the breathtaking coastline of Hawkes Bay. The resort provides the finest five-star service, a fine dining restaurant as well as an award-winning cellar.

[For further details visit www.capekidnappers.com or call +64 6 875 1900.]

GETTING THERE

Air New Zealand offers several flights daily from Australia's east coast to major cities in New Zealand including Auckland and Christchurch.

Domestic flights within New Zealand, with Air New Zealand, are very affordable but there are strict weight restrictions for check-in baggage.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Best of Golf New Zealand is the brand name for the New Zealand Golf Tourism Cluster Inc. The group began six years ago with support from the NZ Government with the objective to market New Zealand as a desirable destination for international golf travellers.

If you want more information about golf in New Zealand visit their website www.bestofgolfnewzealand.com or email info@bestofgolfnewzealand.com



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Wairakei International, Taupo

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For further information contact Kirra Tours

Freecall 1800 007 373 Lic No. TTA 164197

or your local travel agent

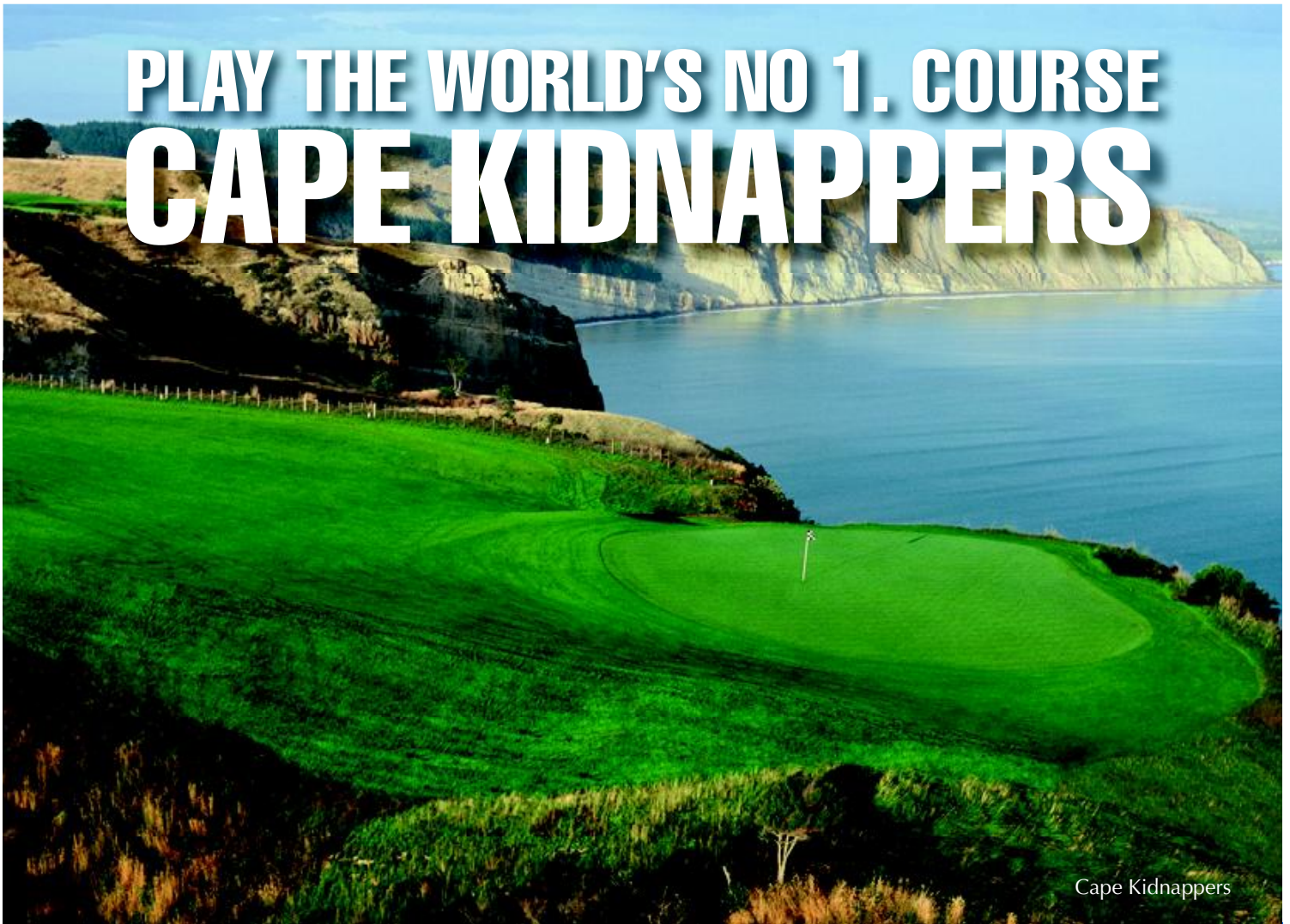


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Cape Kidnappers



Wairakei



Kauri Cliffs



Millbrook

Cape Kidnappers, voted number one in the World, by the Daily Telegraph (UK Oct. 2008), is included in a list of summer golf packages available now from PaR nz Golfing Holidays. Play the best – Cape Kidnappers and Kauri Cliffs, Wairakei International, Kinloch – Jack Nicklaus's only signature course in New Zealand – along with Millbrook, Jacks Point, Clearwater and Terrace Downs.

PaR nz Golfing Holidays proudly host the annual Millbrook Masters, Kauri Cliffs Cup and Regal Salmon Women's Masters Championship at Wairakei along with a series of Women's Golf Tournaments for New Zealand Golf. Entries been taken now for all 2009 tournaments and tours in addition to tournaments in Fiji and Canada. Packages also available to the Masters and British Open.

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