

The Best Golf Course List

My favorite golf courses have many things in common, but none are perfect.

People always ask, “what is your dream foursome” but fewer ask the more realistic question, “what makes a golf course great”? After eighteen years of playing the game, here is my list of what the best courses have that others should copy.

The Best courses...

1. Are devoid of ball-washers.



2. Reward a well struck shot with an opportunity for birdie and reject worm-burners soundly with a tough chip or bunker shot as punishment.
3. Have a short par four that challenges you to go for it in one and gives you a double-bogey if you don't pull it off.
4. Have a reachable par five that rewards two well struck shots with an eagle opportunity, but is nearly impossible to birdie with two poor ones.
5. Have at least one short par three (under 140 yards) with a tiny green that lets you know who's boss early in the round.
6. Are priced high enough to make the round special when you play, but not so high that the average guy can't skip a weekend and take “two weeks greens fees” to play.
7. Are walkable.



8. Hire hot cart girls with a mediocre sense of humor and shorts that don't touch the knees or cart granny's with an even better sense of humor and clothing that covers the "cottage".



9. Have a short walk from the parking lot to the first tee.
10. Soundly discriminate against cut-off jeans, regular jeans, t-shirts without or without 80's hair band names past tours, and don't offer rental clubs.
11. Don't price a single beer at exactly half of what a six pack costs at the convenience store you passed on the way to the course.

12. Sell single hot dogs for less than the pack costs, and don't microwave your burger-Ever.
13. Buy toilet paper with words like "Angel, Soft, Premium, and Quilted" printed on the package.



14. Have bathrooms stocked with sun block, Scope™ mouthwash, real cloth towels, shower heads the size of volleyballs, combs immersed in that blue mystery juice, a can of deodorant, and four walls surrounding the 'throne' with a fully stocked magazine rack thrown in for good measure.
15. Have a friendly replay policy
16. Provides free popcorn in the 19th hole.
17. Has a decent enough 19th hole that makes you want to have a beer in it after the round.



18. Has enough memorable holes to make you want to buy a shirt with the courses logo on it.
19. Don't believe pastry's are sufficient for breakfast.
20. Is challenging enough that when you play your best, it feels like you did.

21. Forces you to use every club in your bag.