



## TRIP IDEAS

# GOLFING IN WHISTLER

Whistler's four golf courses – Whistler Golf Club, Fairmont Chateau Whistler Golf Club, Nicklaus North Golf Course and Big Sky Golf and Country Club – comprise one of the finest mountain golf collections in the world. Throw in a spectacular village, impressive dining and posh hotels for a complete mountain golf paradise.

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## Whistler Golf Club

Whistler's first course – an Arnold Palmer design – is centrally located in the heart of the village and is an easy walk from many of the hotels. The vibe at Whistler Golf Club is youthful, energetic and fun. In addition, the course is walkable and very playable for the average recreational golfer.

Play through a peaceful valley setting with towering fir, cedar and pine trees leaning into the fairways, or challenge the doglegs with gutsy drives that cut corners and shorten the 6,722-yard route. Avoid the nine ball-hungry lakes and white-sand bunkers. Overall, this is a mature, parkland-style course that will test every part of a golfer's game. After golf, hit the patio at Palmer's Gallery for a pint of local beer with fish and chips.

## Fairmont Chateau Whistler Golf Club

About a five-minute walk from the doors of the stellar Fairmont Chateau Whistler, the Fairmont Chateau Whistler Golf Club is a thrilling mountain course with a well-deserved 4.5-star rating by Golf Digest.

Traverse creeks, ponds and ancient stands of Douglas fir trees while playing through rugged, mountainous terrain. Start off with a challenging uphill journey to the 4th green; from there, the course softens somewhat. Expect impressive elevation changes, scenic tees and greens surrounded by wildflowers and creeks. Close out the round with a string of holes that descend through the forest.

After golf, enjoy a quick bite at the course – they offer light clubhouse fare – or journey back to the Fairmont Chateau Whistler for a memorable dining experience in The Grill Room, which is known for fantastic chops, steaks and seafood. A massage at Vida Spa feels terrific after golf. Insider tip: patrons of the hotel receive discounted rates for golf.

## Nicklaus North Golf Course

Nicklaus North is resort golf at its finest, located five minutes from the village along the emerald waters of Green Lake. The Jack Nicklaus design is softer and more playable than many of his other "tournament" courses. Low handicap players can move to the gold tees where it stretches to 6,961 yards and is a stern test. Twice the course has hosted the prestigious Telus World Skins Game, which features some of the world's best golfers.

The layout here features peaceful, gently bending holes that follow the valley floor. The walkable course also incorporates beautiful fir trees and a lovely – but challenging! – finale along the shores of Green Lake. After sinking a birdie putt on 18, hit the largest lakeside patio in Whistler at The Den. Enjoy West Coast cuisine and panoramic mountain views

## Big Sky Golf & Country Club

Big Sky is beautifully situated at the base of Mount Currie in Pemberton, a twenty-five minute drive north of Whistler. This 7,001-yard course was designed by Bob Cupp and is on SCOREGolf Magazine's Top-100 Courses in Canada list. The lush course has a quiet, pastoral feel. It's relatively flat and a joy to walk.

Enjoy playing smooth, bentgrass fairways, green sites featuring closely mown chipping areas, and interesting slopes. Mount Currie creates a jaw-dropping mountain backdrop. After a round, enjoy a cocktail and a delicious meal at Fescues Restaurant and Patio, which offers a West Coast contemporary menu with local fresh ingredients.

## Whistler Accommodations

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler is a landmark Whistler hotel offering rustic elegance at the base of Blackcomb Mountain.

Mountainside Lodge is located close to exceptional golfing. All rooms feature kitchens and fireplaces, and wireless internet is complimentary.

Club Intrawest - Whistler offers a great upper village location and luxury lodge-style vacation homes that are perfect for families or couples.

## Whistler Transportation

Follow the two-hour Sea-to-Sky Highway driving route from Vancouver to Whistler. Cool stops en route include the Britannia Mine Museum and the West Coast Railway Heritage Park.

Like trains? Ride the Rocky Mountaineer's Whistler Sea to Sky Climb train from Vancouver to Whistler. Or go by floatplane: Whistler Air flies from downtown Vancouver to Whistler's Green Lake in about 30 minutes (May to September). Combine the train and plane for a great round trip. Once in Whistler, it's easy to get around by foot, bus or bike.