

Central Oregon Golf Welcomes The Buzz

Resorts expand offerings as "Top 100" courses thrive.

ADVENTURE CALLS. Central Oregon is an outdoor enthusiast's dream where you can ski 360-degrees of pure, dry powder from November to June at Mt. Bachelor. Summer months are ideal for paddling, fishing or rafting on the wild Deschutes River, or take in the other worldly views at Smith Rock State Park. Throw in a thriving art scene, tax-free shopping, and 300 days of sun and there is no better place for year-round fun than Central Oregon.

BEND, OREGON: When Tom O'Brien called the Central Oregon Visitors Association last year for recommendations on a buddies golf getaway, he was on a mission.

"I was looking for something out of the ordinary," said O'Brien. "I wanted a trip where we go home thinking, 'I can't wait to go back.' We played six rounds in four days—mission accomplished!"

The Central Oregon Golf Trail is noteworthy with 30 diverse, scenic, and well-kept courses.



Crosswater at Sunriver Resort

The High Desert of Central Oregon (the sunny side of the state) is home to three of *Golf Digest's* "100 Greatest Public Courses in America" (Pronghorn # 33, Crosswater # 51, and Tetherow # 54). *Golf Magazine* ranked Bend as one of the "Top 25" golf destinations in the world.

Pronghorn features Jack Nicklaus Signature and Tom Fazio courses. Both cut through ancient lava rock outcroppings and offer captivating views of the Cascades. With well-appointed junior suites, vacation homes, and a new lodge under construction, the Pronghorn experience is second to none in the West.

CRAFT BEER wasn't invented here, but Central Oregon's 26 breweries might have perfected it. Its urban-chic dining scene epitomizes the farm-to-table experience foodies crave.

Sunriver Resort, just south of Bend, is a 3,300-acre getaway that's home to 63-holes of golf, including the famed Crosswater Club, former host site of a Champions Tour major. With a new pool facility, marina, stables, tennis courts, nine restaurants, vacation homes, condos, lodge-style rooms and condos, Sunriver makes for a true family destination resort.

For an opportunity to play a sampling of Central Oregon courses in tournament conditions, sign up for the 20th annual Lithia Pacific Amateur Golf Classic this September. The largest amateur competition in the West includes three rounds of golf, a chance to play a championship round at Crosswater, and nightly 19th hole events. ■

Plan your trip now at VisitCentralOregon.com.



Pronghorn



Tetherow