

THE HOMESTEAD RESORT originally opened as an 18-room wooden hotel 253 years ago. In 1901, the hotel burned to the ground and was rebuilt bigger and better with its iconic tower completed in 1929.



The Omni Homestead

AMERICA'S FIRST RESORT



Old Course

HOT SPRINGS, VIRGINIA: Over the course of America's 241-year history, 45 presidents have governed the land.

Since opening as "America's First Resort" in 1766 (a decade before the signing of the Declaration of Independence), 23 presidents have visited The Homestead.

"We have five suites named after presidents that are designed as a legacy to their service and passions," revealed Brett Schoenfield, managing director of The Omni Homestead. "President Woodrow Wilson honeymooned here back in 1915. Known as a avid golfer, the interior of the Woodrow Wilson suite has a golf motif."

Surrounded by the Allegheny Mountains, The Omni Homestead Resort is an outdoor haven of activities including 36 holes of golf, horse rides (with equestrian facilities boarding 41 horses), and miles of hiking trails (including the popular Cascades Gorge Hike).

"Some of our guest activities will surprise," revealed Schoenfield. "Popular options include a visit to our two-acre water park, with a 400-foot lazy river and two water slides; Segway tours; and, during the winter, a private ski mountain with gentle slopes and terrain the whole family can enjoy. In fact, The Homestead has been in the ski business since 1959, a full 30 years before Vail Resorts, the large ski mountain operator, came into existence."

A LANDMARK PROPERTY STEEPED IN HISTORY

The Omni Homestead offers two of the finest mountain courses on the East Coast. The appropriately named *Old Course* was completed in 1892 and is distinguished as home of the nation's oldest first tee in continuous use. *The Cascades*, where Sam Snead launched his career, has the honor of being ranked among "America's 100 Greatest Public Golf Courses" by *Golf Digest* and the "No. 1 Course You Can Play in Virginia" by *Golfweek*.

"I couldn't be more proud of our two golf courses," expressed Barry Ryder, director of golf operations.

"Greens on the Old Course are the defense and can deceive you. The Cascades Course is an authentic William Flynn design that has hosted eight USGA events," explained Ryder. "Sam often praised the course by saying, 'I love the Cascades because it leaves grass on every club in the bag.' In fact, he still holds the course record [61], with a blistering 27 on the back nine with nine consecutive threes!" ■

For more information on seasonal golf packages, please visit theomnihomestead.com