

"There are so many beautiful spots at OZARKS NATIONAL, it's unbelievable. There's a certain atmosphere about this place that I've never seen before."

— BEN CRENSHAW



# BIG CEDAR LODGE

**WHERE**  
SCENIC VISTAS AND  
OZARK HOSPITALITY  
COME AT NO  
EXTRA CHARGE

*The resort's five world-class golf courses are inspired by the beauty of nature.*

IN THE HEART OF THE MISSOURI OZARKS (Just south of Branson): Big Cedar Lodge is located in the heart of the Ozark Mountains. Known for its great outdoors way of life, the fishing, boating, hunting, hiking, and now golf are popular pastimes. Big Cedar Lodge is America's premier wilderness resort. The 4,600-acre lakeside retreat connects guests with a variety of nature-based activities. Existing golf amenities include a Jack Nicklaus Signature par-3 course, a Gary Player short course, and Tom Fazio and Coore/Crenshaw championship courses. Next in the pipeline to open is Payne's Valley, designed by Tiger Woods. The resort's complete golf offering is quickly establishing it as "America's next great golf destination."

## **THIS IS WHERE I NEED TO BE**

"When I met Johnny Morris [founder of Bass Pro Shops and Big Cedar Lodge], I felt an instant connection and knew this was the place I needed to be," recalled Todd Bohn, director of agronomy at Big Cedar Lodge. "In conservation circles, Mr. Morris is often referred to as a modern day Teddy Roosevelt for his commitment to protecting natural habitats for future generations."

Mr. Morris's passion for the great outdoors has led him to take a growing interest in golf. Adding to the list of courses at Big Cedar Lodge is the new Ozarks National, designed by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw. The course opened for preview play in fall of 2018 and will officially open to the public this spring following the Legends of Golf tournament.

"The course features wide fairways and big greens with tee-to-green Zoysia grass that's mowed at a one-cut level," described Bohn. "It creates a different playing condition from our other courses and follows the Coore/Crenshaw ethos of 'building classic routings that take advantage of natural surroundings.'"

Currently under construction at Big Cedar Lodge is Tiger Woods' newest design, Payne's Valley, named after Ozarks native and golf legend Payne Stewart. "As the first open-to-the-public Tiger design in America, interest will be high," said Bohn. "No detail is being overlooked. For example, the course will feature a 19th hole: a par 3 bet-settling hole carved into a limestone rock face. Even if you lose your bet, you will not leave disappointed." ■

BIG CEDAR LODGE was named the No. 1 resort in the Midwest by *Travel+Leisure*.



PAYNE'S VALLEY is designed by Tiger Woods. The course, currently in the grow-in phase, is named in honor of the late Payne Stewart, whose life was cut short when he died in a plane accident in 1999. Stewart was raised in nearby Springfield and won three majors on the PGA TOUR.