

PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA: Noted golf course architect Donald Ross lived in what is now called Dornoch Cottage (named after Ross's hometown in Scotland) for more than two decades. Located a wedge shot away from the third green at Pinehurst No. 2, the historic home is equivalent in Pinehurst to the Lincoln Bedroom in The White House.

Pinehurst Resort has welcomed guests since 1895. Ross, one of the most prolific architects of his generation, designed the first four courses that would become the "Home of American Golf." The announcement that the USGA will establish "Golf House Pinehurst" and host five U.S. Open Championships in the coming decades only reinforces its brand as a must visit for the purist at heart. "There is no better place to plant new roots," said Mike Davis, newly departed CEO at the USGA. "It's a





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Pinehurst Resort offers nine courses that challenge your skill and test your imagination.

bold step forging long-term commitments to foster innovation and ultimately grow the game."

A GOLF MECCA

"Over the past 125 years, our resort has expanded to offer nine golf courses," explained Ben Bridgers, director of golf. "I surmise No. 2 became our most famous design because Donald Ross lived on property, providing plenty of time to tinker with routing. While No. 2 is a must play for most, his other three designs are equally thrilling. Pinehurst No. 1 is friendly for all players; No. 2 is located close to the Village Chapel [church bells that ring on the hour allow you to measure your pace of play]; and No. 3 mimics the look and playability of No. 2, but plays shorter.

"Our other five courses were designed by several of the best in the business, including Gil Hanse [No. 4],

> Ellis Maples [No. 5], George Fazio [No. 6], Rees Jones [No. 7], Tom Fazio [No. 8], and Jack Nicklaus [No. 9]. Each has uniqueness to them," described Bridgers.

> "No. 4 is located on a stunning piece of terrain with great views; No. 5 has the most picturesque hole in the Sand Hills (the par-3 14th, long known as the Cathedral Hole for the tall pines behind the green, which call to mind a pipe organ); and No. 6, a former host of an LPGA tournament, requires aggressive approach shots," continued Bridgers. "Considering our association with the USGA, it seemed appropriate to have

Rees Jones, nicknamed 'The Open Doctor,' design No. 7, and Tom Fazio was commissioned to build No. 8 to commemorate the resort's centennial anniversary. Jack Nicklaus has long commented Pinehurst No. 2 is his favorite golf course from a design standpoint, so his expertise creating No. 9 among our longleaf pines seemed apropos."

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