



THE PRAIRIE CLUB

Embracing Seclusion

“The single biggest challenge we’ve faced is getting people to visit. The single easiest thing is getting them to come back.” — PAUL SCHOCK, FOUNDER

VALENTINE, NEBRASKA: The Prairie Club was founded by Paul Schock, a noted amateur golfer in the region.

“In some ways, I consider it golf’s version of *Field of Dreams* [referring to the 1989 motion picture starring Kevin Costner]. Golf existed long before the bulldozer. The land dictated playability,” said Schock. “I wholeheartedly agree with the philosophy that great golf is discovered, not built. I knew great holes were already here. We just had to find them.”

Located deep in America’s heartland, The Prairie Club

attracts devout believers in the game. “We embrace seclusion,” continued Schock. “During your round, often the only sound you will hear is rustling native grasses swaying in the wind.”

LASTING MEMORIES

“There are a staggering 315,000 street lights in New York City,” revealed Roger Brashear, COO at The Prairie Club. “We are located in Cherry County, Nebraska, a region known to have one of the darkest skies in America.



This Pines Course is a parkland design that meanders through a forest on the edge of the Snake River. Reminiscent of courses found in the Colorado Rockies, a different mindset is required to successfully traverse its tighter fairways. The prevailing prairie winds are blocked by the western wall of the river canyon and towering ponderosa trees, making the sun feel especially warm on your back.



The Dunes Course is marked by dramatic elevation changes and immense blowouts easily viewed by satellite. You will face a wind-shaped, seemingly endless landscape and massive rolling seascape of prairie grass. Fairways average 58 yards in width, providing ample opportunities to “tee it high and let it fly.”



The Horse Course is adjacent to the lodge, a 10-hole short course that requires nothing more than a wedge and putter to play. There are no tee boxes. The one who earned honor calls the next teeing place. With creatively undulating greens that give way to sand blowouts, an afternoon round is the “cherry” on your day of golf in the Sand Hills.

It's an amazing region because it is too fragile to farm, too rugged to ranch, but perfect for golf courses.

You can count on one hand the number of street lights within a 50-mile radius of the club. Instead of traveling to *Manhattan* for your next vacation, consider visiting The Prairie Club and enjoy a *Manhattan* made with two parts whiskey, one part sweet vermouthe.

“I consider it special that you can play two ‘top-100’ golf courses [as ranked by GOLF.com and *Golf Digest*] in a town that tops out with a population of 2,000 on a good day,” smiled Brashear. “Our driving range is the central meeting point at The Prairie Club. To its *west* lies The Pines Course, to the *east* is The Dunes Course, and *north* is The Horse Course. Should your swing not cooperate, not to fear, our maintenance facility, located due *south*, has a fridge full of beer!”



SLEEP AS DEEP AS THE PRAIRIE NIGHT

Various rooming options allow you to customize your pilgrimage to America’s next great golf frontier. The bunkhouse, with 12 single rooms and an expansive wraparound porch, is ideal for buddies groups to connect together and disconnect from the outside world. After a day of competition and camaraderie, you will appreciate the premium bedding with a pillow-top mattress and thick down comforter that allows you to drift off into a sleep as deep as the prairie night.

EXPANDING BOUNDARIES

“We are a dramatically different experience than what you will find in Scottsdale or Pinehurst,” stated Rick Kimmes, general manager at The Prairie Club. “We offer a simpler way of life to help alleviate pressures of the day. While you may need to wait posting Facebook pictures until you are back in your room with Wi-Fi service, you will quickly come to appreciate the sense of tranquility we provide. More than once, I’ve had a departing guest describe how their shoulders feel lighter after a fun weekend on the prairie.” ■

For more information, please visit ThePrairieClub.com.