

The Sea Pines Resort Long a Fan Favorite

A showcase of nature's most breathtaking gifts of sea and sky.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA: This year, the PGA TOUR's calendar is packed with 39 events at some of America's most iconic golf clubs. So, it's noteworthy when Tour's players rank The Sea Pines Resort as their second favorite facility—behind Augusta National.

"The RBC Heritage has a wonderful two-way relationship with the PGA TOUR," expressed John Farrell, current director of sports at The Sea Pines Resort and 35-year veteran at its golf facilities. "The collaboration between the Tour, tournament, and resort is a joy to be a

part of, and I have a front-row seat! It isn't a one-week relationship per year. Literally, the day the tournament concludes, we hold a post-tournament briefing and start the planning for the following competition." When pressed for an example, John was quick with a response. "The length of rough was discussed," continued Farrell. "The specs required by the PGA TOUR would be too penal for resort guests. So, we worked with them to make sure our course is playable for the typical handicapper the day before and after tournament festivities."

"You want to feel you are at the beach,
playing a seaside course, so I opened it up."

—DAVIS LOVE III, DESIGNER OF ATLANTIC DUNES





Exploring Hilton Head Island from the comfort of a bicycle is almost a rite of passage in the Lowcountry. Enjoy 17-mile network of leisure paths to travel between resort amenities and activities—as well as hard-packed beaches perfect for cycling.

Sea Pines is on the southernmost tip of Hilton Head Island. Its 5,400 acres of mature oceanfront features The Inn at Harbour Town, three daily fee golf courses, seven miles of beaches, 17 miles of bike trails, complete tennis facilities, two full-service marinas, and horse stables.

The Sea Pines Resort is located at the tip of Hilton Head Island, about a one-hour drive from the Savannah, Georgia, airport. Guests have access to three courses: Harbour Town Golf Links (home to the RBC Heritage Classic for 57 years), Atlantic Dunes (designed by Davis Love III—a five-time Heritage Classic champion), and Heron Point (a Pete Dye fan favorite).

“The three fit together to complete the perfect puzzle for your next golf excursion,” grinned Farrell. “Harbour Town is our Mona Lisa. It’s a thought-provoking design with smaller greens than are typically found on Tour. Bring your patience. You can’t overpower the course and it’s easy to turn a bogie into a triple in short order. My playing advice: ‘Listen to your caddie.’

“Atlantic Dunes has a completely different feel if you haven’t played it since our Davis Love III redesign. Although the course is located less than a mile from the resort, you feel as if you have been transported a million miles away. It’s easy to see why the course was ranked ‘Best New Course of the Year’ when it reopened in 2015. My playing advice: ‘Don’t be shortsighted and target the pin. Play for the middle of the green.’

“Heron Point is our version of

“The RBC Heritage’s original purse of \$100,000 [won by Arnold Palmer in 1969] has jumped to \$20 million [won by Scottie Scheffler in 2024]. The fan base has grown, too. Each year, more than 100,000 spectators arrive from across the US and around the globe.”

—STEVE BIRDWELL, PRESIDENT OF THE SEA PINES RESORT



Major League Baseball’s Fenway Park. It’s tighter and a more intimate experience. After play, as you settle in for a 19th hole beer and BBQ at Fraser’s Tavern, you will revel the day discussing how a course can have so much personality. My playing advice: ‘Accuracy will be your friend.’

“Our resort and Sea Pines encourage you to ‘get outside.’ Knock the batteries from your room’s television remote control and go explore,” advised Farrell. “There isn’t a better way to end the day than a sunset meal at Quarterdeck, next to our landmark lighthouse. It would be like traveling to Paris and not visiting the Eiffel Tower.” ■

For information on seasonal packages, visit SeaPines.com.

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“No. 5 Golf Resort in the World.” —GOLF INC.
“Among the Top-100 Hotels in the World.” —TRAVEL+LEISURE

