Nature Lends Beauty To Brunswick Golf Courses

BY DOUG RUTTER hen it comes to golf courses, most people who live in Brunswick County or visit agree there isn't a spot on the planet that can rival what the area has to offer.

The county is home to championship layouts designed by worldclass golf course architects such as P.B. Dye, Rees Jones, Willard Byrd and Dan Maples. But their challenging holes are just part of the picture.

Few golf resorts have the natural beauty of the coast at their disposal like Brunswick County. Marshes, rivers, lakes and other wetland areas have been incorporated into many local courses to create spectacular scenes.

Step up to the 18th tee at Brick Landing Plantation, for instance, and you can't help taking a few moments to admire the breathtaking view. At your feet is the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Ocean Isle Beach and the Atlantic Ocean are off in the distance.

The area has become a golfer's paradise thanks in part to the natural settings that add so much to the layouts.

Below is a list of the county's 21 courses, including 16 in the South Brunswick Islands.

Bald Head Island

Golfers looking for a beautiful course off the beaten path need look no farther than Bald Head

An Impressive Lineup

Course	Par	Yardage	Location
Bald Head Island .	72	7040	Marina/Southport
Brick Landing	72	6943	Ocean Isle Beach
Brierwood	72	6700	Shallotte
Brunswick Plantation	72	6800	Hickmans Crossroads
Carolina Shores	72	6757	Calabash
Fox Squirrel	72	6762	Boiling Spring Lakes
Lion's Paw	72	7003	Sunset Beach
Lockwood Links	72	6801	Lockwood Folly
Marsh Harbour	. 71	6690	Calabash
Oak Island	72	6608	Yaupon Beach
Ocean Harbour	72	7004	Sunset Beach
Ocean Isle	72	6637	Ocean Isle Beach
Olde Fort	72	6200	Hwy. 133, Winnabow
Oyster Bay	70	6695	Sunset Beach
The Pearl: East	72	6895	Old Georgetown Road
West	72	7011	Old Georgetown Road
Sandpiper Bay	71	6503	Old Georgetown Road
Sea Trail: Maples	72	6751	Sunset Beach
Jones	72	6761	Sunset Beach
Byrd	72	6750	Sunset Beach
St. James Plantation (The Gauntlet)	72	7068	Southport

Island Golf Club. The remote island off Cape Fear is accessible via a 20-minute ferry ride from Southport.

Salt marshes, tidal creeks and more than 800 acres of maritime

forests provide the backdrop for the island's George Cobb-designed golf course. The par-72 measures 7,040 yards and navigates 15 freshwater lagoons, challenging players on every hole.

Brick Landing Plantation

With three holes skirting the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Brick Landing Plantation offers some of the most breathtaking views you'll find in Brunswick County.

The course features one of the most memorable par threes in the region. The short 17th hole requires a tee shot to a small green overlooking the waterway. Balls hit too firmly from the elevated tee often end up with the fish.

Accuracy is a premium at The Brick, located south of Shallotte and east of Ocean Isle Beach on N.C. 179.

The course folds naturally into the terrain and features bulkhead greens, pot ponds, marshland and more than 60 sand bunkers. Experience counts for a lot on this course, so you may want to play it more than once.

Brierwood

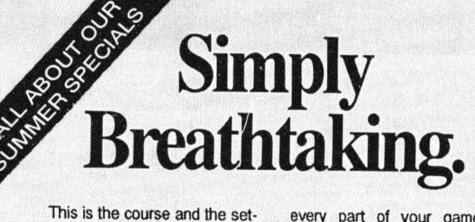
Brierwood Golf Club located on N.C. 179 on the outskirts of Shallotte is the oldest course in the South Brunswick Islands, but it remains a favorite among locals.

Brierwood's reasonable rates and well-conditioned fairways and greens make it a popular choice among area golf associations, tourists and senior golfers alike.

Despite its age, Brierwood demands a variety of shots and can still offer one of the most enjoyable rounds of golf in the county.

Brunswick Plantation

Brunswick Plantation & Golf Links is the new kid on the block. (Continued On Page 24)



This is the course and the setting no one will ever be able to duplicate. A spectacular 18-hole, Willard Byrd creation fronting the Lockwood Folly River and the Intracoastal Waterway. Here is a lay-out that challenges

every part of your game and imagination. And we're located conveniently between Myrtle Beach and Wilmington at Holden

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