

# Your Guide To Golfing In The Brunswick Islands

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an emphasis on placement rather than distance.

The greens are large and undulating, which places a premium on approach shots and putting. A par 3 featuring an island green is one of the course's biggest highlights.

Brunswick Plantation is located on U.S. 17 about three miles north of the South Carolina state line.

## Carolina Shores

If you come to the beach, you have to expect to get some sand between your toes. Carolina Shores Golf & Country Club won't let you down.

The Calabash course features an intimidating 96 sand traps. Combined with fresh water lakes, Carolina Shores is a challenging but fun layout at 6,757 yards.

South Carolina architect Tom Jackson designed the par-72 course, which boasts lush fairways carved from tall pines. A large residential community surrounds the course.

## Fox Squirrel

Located in the heart of Boiling Spring Lakes, Fox Squirrel Country Club combines water, mounded fairways, sand traps and receptive greens.

Aggressive golfers will find several holes that reward well-placed

drives with opportunities for birdies and eagles. The Bermuda grass fairways are carved around huge freshwater lakes and towering long leaf pines.

This 6,272-yard layout got its name from its inhabitants—the large, furry fox squirrels that often dart across fairways into the trees.

## The Gauntlet

Golfers interested in a coastal course with a different look may want to check out The Gauntlet at St. James Plantation.

The 7,068-yard layout differs from most coastal courses but still offers views of salt marshes, thick woodlands and the inland waterway and ocean.

The Gauntlet, located three miles from Southport on N.C. 211, is an unmistakable creation of renowned architect P.B. Dye and features his typical blend of imagination and fiendishness.

Golfers can expect undulating fairways and greens, startling elevation changes and an outstanding finishing hole. The course received favorable mention in the Golf Digest "Best New Public Course" survey in January.

## Goose Bay

Brunswick County's only chip-and-putt course, Goose Bay is lo-

cated on Pigott Road off N.C. 179 between Brick Landing and Shallotte Point.

The nine-hole course measures 1,073 yards from the back tees, and holes range in length from 91 yards to 134 yards.

The course features two ponds that come into play and one sand trap. Rental clubs are available at this course, which is a great place to take the kids.

## Lockwood Golf Links

Located along the scenic Lockwood Folly River and Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Lockwood Golf Links offers some of the most spectacular scenery you'll find at a championship golf course.

Towering oaks and tranquil ponds and lagoons frame the 6,800-yard Willard Byrd creation. Lockwood provides a stern test from the blue tees, and the white tees also offer a great challenge at 6,200 yards.

Tight fairways and water hazards place a premium on accuracy of tee shots and approaches. In 1988, the Holden Beach area layout was nominated as the best new course by *Golf Digest*.

## Lion's Paw

Lion's Paw Golf Links is one of the area's newest course, opening

in the summer of 1991. Another Byrd design, the 7,003-yard layout features rolling terrain and dramatic elevations.

The ruggedly beautiful course has several memorable par threes and an interesting combination of woods and water. Lion's Paw is located just a few miles from Sunset Beach on N.C. 904.

## Marsh Harbour

A Dan Maples creation, Marsh Harbour Golf Links at Calabash has been highly regarded since it opened a decade ago.

The golf course is set on property that offers a unique combination of elevated ground bordered by low-lying marsh. Massive oaks draped with Spanish moss line the fairways, and the course offers a number of breathtaking views over marsh flats.

Marsh Harbour is one of the most popular courses for visitors and golf packages in the area. The links straddles the state line, giving golfers a chance to play in both Carolinas in one round.

## Ocean Harbour

If it's water you want, Ocean Harbour Golf Links is the course for you.

The 7,000-yard layout sits on the southern-most tip of Brunswick County, a peninsula bordered by the Calabash River and Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

Architect Clyde Johnston used the incredible surroundings to create 15 water holes. Grass and sand bunkers and fairway mounds add to the attraction.

The fascinating course demands careful approach shots, because the ample greens are an open invitation to three-putts.

The entrance to Ocean Harbour is located on N.C. 179 between Calabash and Sunset Beach.

## Ocean Isle Beach

Perhaps one of the best-kept secrets in Brunswick County is Ocean Isle Beach Golf Course, located on Four Mile Road just a short drive from the Ocean Isle Beach strand.

This excellent facility has been visited by thousands of tourists over the years who enjoy great golf

on a well-maintained course.

Rolling contours, tight fairways and a meandering creek make Ocean Isle a challenge and a favorite among local seniors and golf associations.

## Olde Fort

Located on N.C. 133 at Winnabow, Olde Fort Country Club is a layout intended for the beginning golfer.

The course is an unimposing 6,200 yards from the back tees and has few sand traps or other hazards. There are four water holes on the par-72 course, which features wide fairways and receptive greens.

Olde Fort is perfect for the average golfer more interested in a fun round than a stiff challenge.

## Oyster Bay

Recognized by *Golf Digest* as the "Best New Resort Course" when it was built, Oyster Bay Golf Links had maintained its standing as one of the Southeast's finest facilities.

Architect Dan Maples used nature to create the hazards, incorporating salt marshes and freshwater lakes into his design.

The par-70 championship course measures 6,695 yards. It's located on N.C. 179 at Sunset Beach.

## The Pearl

Located on Old Georgetown Road near Calabash, The Pearl Golf Links features two championship courses.

The East and West courses measure 6,895 and 7,011 respectively and have been acclaimed as two of the best in the Southeast.

They have been named among the top 10 course in the Carolinas, and The Pearl was nominated as the "Best New Public Resort Course" in 1998 by *Golf Digest*.

The Pearl has plans for two new golf courses (North and South) at its outstanding complex, which is a leader in the area for hosting tournaments.

## Sandpiper Bay

Sandpiper Bay Golf & Country Club, a championship course that has gained many fans since it opened several years ago, is on Old

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