

SPECIAL REAL ESTATE ISSUE

LINKS

PREMIER PROPERTIES



THE MOST
COMPREHENSIVE
AND AUTHORITATIVE
GUIDE TO THE BEST
GOLF COMMUNITIES
IN THE WORLD

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LINKSMagazine.com



BEST *of the* BEST

From South Florida to Montana,
from Hawaii to North Carolina,
these following
41 communities
provide top-of-the-line amenities,
unique experiences,
and lasting memories
for discerning residents who
expect nothing but the best



The Ford Plantation

Estancia

Scottsdale, Ariz.

Located at the base of a local landmark, Pinnacle Peak, the Estancia Club is as much an icon in the area's impressive golf landscape. Tom Fazio artfully routed the 7,314-yard layout through the property's 640 acres of scrub, boulders, and vegetation to create one of the best desert courses in the country.

estanciaclub.com

The Ford Plantation pg. 2

Richmond Hill, Ga.

The former winter retreat of Henry Ford is now a premier sporting community. With only 400 homesites on its 1,800 acres (including nearly a mile of deep-water frontage on the Ogeechee River), its members have plenty of room to enjoy fishing, horseback riding, boating, and the recently restored Pete Dye golf course, along with a complete day spa and fitness center, and plenty of activities for the kids.

fordplantation.com

Frederica

St. Simons Island, Ga.

More than a dozen PGA Tour pros are paying members who enjoy the Tom Fazio course, golf learning center, and coastal Georgia's largest fresh water lake, stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and hybrid stripers. Frederica's nearly 3,000 acres allow room for a 60-acre Rookery, a 64-stall equestrian center, and miles of paved paths on which to ride the complimentary club bikes.

fredericaliving.com

Glacier Club pg. 63

Durango, Colo.

At an elevation of nearly 8,000 feet, drives seem to fly forever against the spectacular mountain backdrops at the Glacier Club, which has 27 holes where members can finally hit that 300-yard drive of their dreams. While the community occupies only about 1,000 acres, it appears to be much bigger because it is surrounded by three million acres of National Forest.

theglacierclub.com

The Golf Club at Black Rock

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Despite designing very good courses for years, Jim Engh remained relatively anonymous. But he should join the architecture A-list with his layout at Black Rock, which is receiving accolades as one of the best courses in the United States. Known for taking chances with unorthodox holes, Engh took advantage of a dramatic site next to Lake Coeur d'Alene to build a memorable 7,130-yard test.

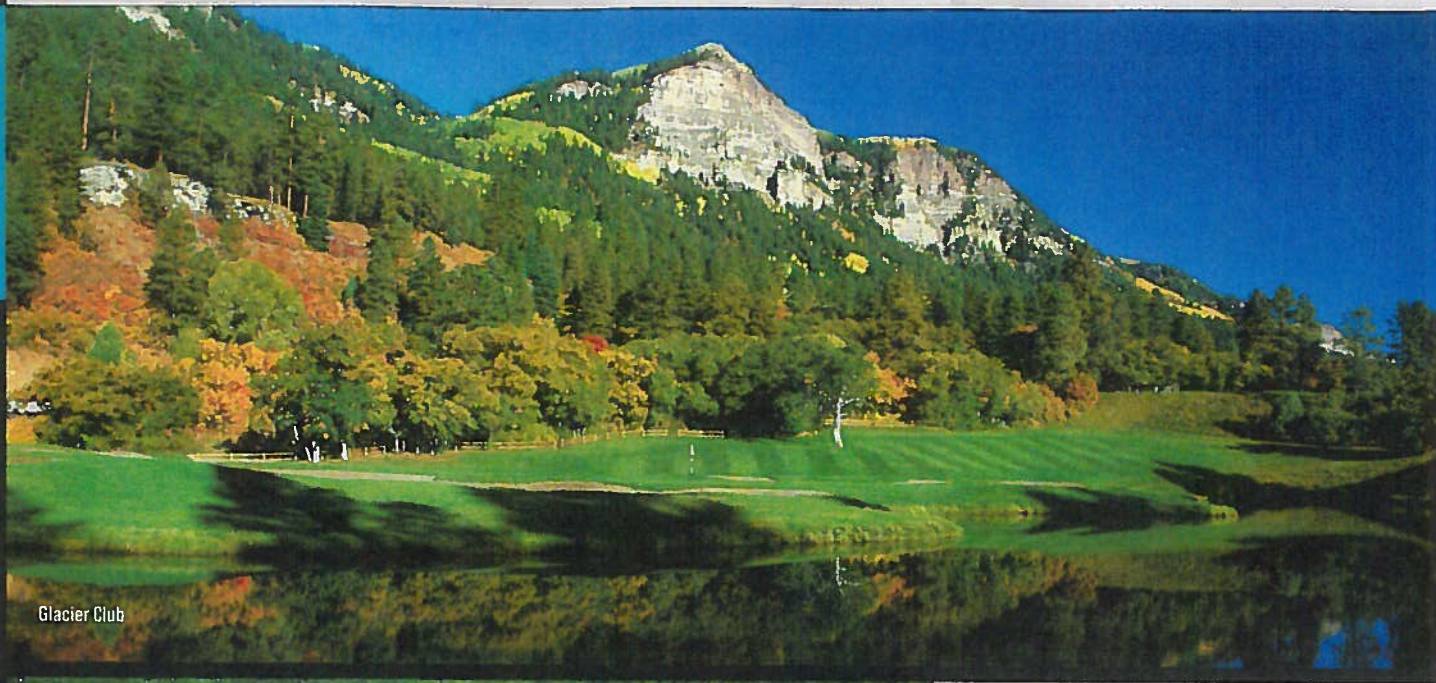
blackrockidaho.com

Gozzer Ranch

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Gozzer Ranch is the ultimate summer camp by the lake for residents, no matter their age. They can engage in numerous activities on Lake Coeur d'Alene, from fishing to kayaking to sailing. If they would rather admire the lake from a distance, they can go hiking or biking. Of course, there is also the Tom Fazio layout routed through the pines and with views of the water.

gozzerranchclub.com



Glacier Club



The Greenbrier Sporting Club

The Greenbrier Sporting Club pg. 13

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

Built on the grounds of the Greenbrier Resort, which has undergone \$250 million-plus in renovations and additions under owner Jim Justice, this collection of exclusive neighborhoods enjoys its own amenities, including a private golf course and members' lodge. Should Sporting Club property owners tire of their 18-hole Tom Fazio course, they have access to the resort's activities and services, including four golf courses, casino, and spa.
thegreenbriersportingclub.com

Hualalai

Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii

In addition to a pair of Jack Nicklaus courses, this community on the Big Island offers many amenities that are unique to our 50th state, from a program for tagging the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle to the Ka'upulehu Cultural Center to the Alaka'i Nalu program's ocean activities. Of course, there are also more traditional amenities like the beach club and fine dining.
hualalaresort.com

Iron Horse

Whitefish, Mont.

Located along the Flathead Lake, the largest natural fresh water lake west of the Mississippi River, Iron Horse offers numerous water pursuits. But there are just as many land-based amenities, from the 7,028-yard Tom Fazio golf course to nearby Glacier National Park to a variety of winter sports.
ironhorsemt.com

Isleworth Golf & Country Club

Windermere, Fla.

There are plenty of reasons why Isleworth is such a popular address for professional golfers, who can live anywhere in the country. In addition to an Arnold Palmer course that is a worthy test for the best players in the world, the community offers easy access to the Butler chain of lakes when the players want to enjoy a week off from the stresses of the tour lifestyle.
isleworth.com

John's Island pg. 10

Vero Beach, Fla.

With nine miles of shoreline along the Intracoastal Waterway and three miles of private beach on the Atlantic Ocean, the 1,650-acre John's Island offers residents plenty of the best of South Florida living. And that's not even counting the community's three golf courses from three of the best architects in the world: Pete Dye, Tom Fazio, and Jack Nicklaus.
johnslandrealestate.com

Kiawah Island pg. 19

Kiawah Island, S.C.

While the island is known for its resort golf, especially the Ocean Course, residents have exclusive access to a pair of hidden gems: Tom Fazio's River and Tom Watson's Cassique layouts. In addition, owners can explore the barrier island's abundant wildlife before relaxing at the private beach club or the Sasanqua Spa.
kiawahisland.com



Kiawah Island

Kukio

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

Considering how prolific Tom Fazio has been as an architect, it is surprising to learn that he has designed just one course in Hawaii—the 7,419-yard layout at Kukio. And because sometimes 18 holes along the Pacific Ocean isn't enough golf, Fazio also built the community's 10-hole short course, perfect for recouping some of the losses from the big course.

kuklo.com

Kukui'ula pg. 4

Poipu, Hawaii

The first major new community on Kaua'i in decades, this upscale private club captures the very best of classic Hawaii. Its spectacular location was the setting for many blockbusters including *South Pacific* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. The Tom Weiskopf design offers ocean views from every hole, but the allure of the outdoors in Hawaii extends far beyond great golf to the blue Pacific waters.

kukuiula.com

Lake Nona Golf & Country Club

Orlando, Fla.

Tom Fazio's 7,215-yard golf course, which sits along the eponymous lake, is one of the best layouts in Central Florida and the centerpiece of this luxury community that has numerous club activities for members and residents. After a round, they can play tennis, work out at the fitness center, ride bicycles, or enjoy a fine dining experience in the elegant clubhouse.

lakenona.com

Madison Club

La Quinta, Calif.

When the clubhouse and its surrounding villas are finished next year, the Madison Club will have a post-round refuge that offers an experience that is equal to a round on the lush Tom Fazio layout, which was completely carved out of the desert floor. During construction, the club moved five-million-cubic yards to create not only the 7,426-yard course but also the 193 estate-sized homesites.

madisonclubca.com

Martis Camp pg. 8

Truckee, Calif.

No matter the season, residents of Martis Camp can expect the best. During the summer, they can test their swings on the 7,707-yard Tom Fazio course. In winter, they can take the community's private ski lift to the Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort. The Family Barn offers fun and memories for residents, who enjoy the Soda Fountain, bowling lanes, movie theater, and other amenities.

martiscamp.com



John's Island

Mayacama

Santa Rosa, Calif

Mayacama's unique location, 60 miles north of San Francisco in Sonoma County, makes it the perfect community for lovers of golf and wine. The quality of its Jack Nicklaus course is surpassed only by that of its vintner program. Members enjoy exclusive access to some of the region's best wineries, many of which are not open to the public.

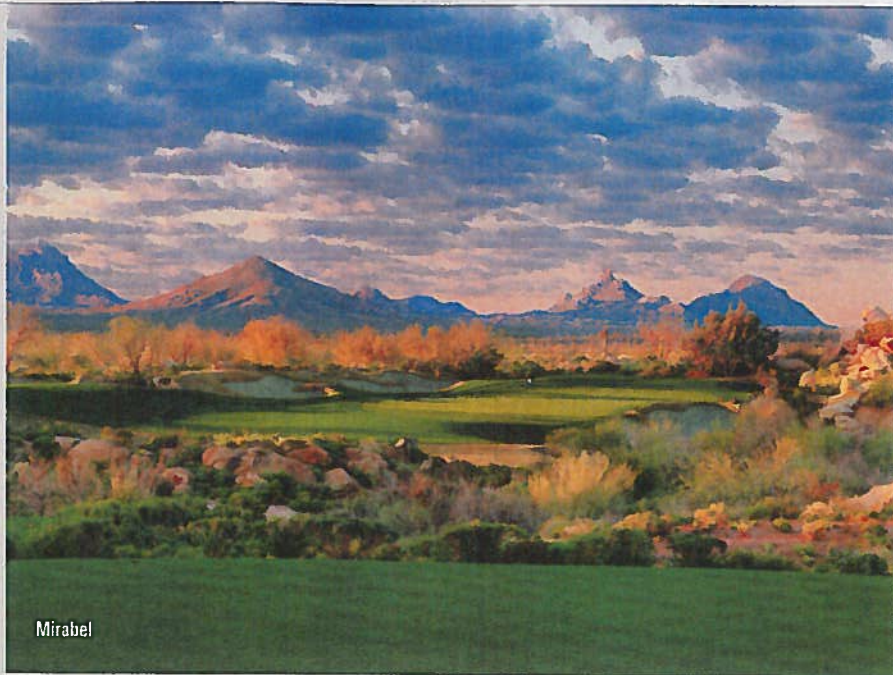
mayacama.com

Mirabel pg. 23

Scottsdale, Ariz.

Located at the extreme north of the Valley of the Sun, Mirabel sits at a slightly higher elevation where the temperatures are slightly cooler than in downtown Scottsdale, making for a more enjoyable round over the 7,147-yard Tom Fazio course. Also more fun is the course itself. Not as punitive as most desert courses, Fazio built holes that offer wider playing areas.

mirabel.com



Mirabel

Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club

Cashiers, N.C.

Discovery Land is known for developing the most luxurious golf communities, but Mountaintop, located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, is one of only three it has created east of the Mississippi. As at its other communities, Discovery Land hired Tom Fazio, who didn't have to travel far from his North Carolina home and spent a lot of time crafting a challenging layout.

mountaintopgolfclub.com

Old Palm Golf Club

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Old Palm stands out in the golf-rich neighborhood of Palm Beach Gardens not only for its impressive homes, but also for its Ray Floyd course, which is as enjoyable for average golfers as it is challenging for Floyd and his tour-pro colleagues. For those looking to improve their games, like the tour pros who live here, Old Palm offers a 33-acre Golf Studio that takes advantage of the latest technology.

oldpalmgolfclub.com



Kukui'ula



Dalhousie Golf Club

Cape Girardeau, Mo

Two hours south of St. Louis and three hours north of Memphis, Dalhousie Golf Club is a Midwest golf sanctuary with a direct connection to the Earl of Dalhousie in Scotland.

dalhousiegolfclub.com

Desert Highlands

Scottsdale, Ariz.

Home of the first two Skins Games, this upscale community is also known for its award-winning tennis facility. Members also enjoy a stunning clubhouse, dramatically situated at the base of Pinnacle Peak.

deserthighlandsscottsdale.com

Encanterra

Queen Creek, Ariz.

There's now two options for enjoying the luxurious club life, including the full-service spa, amphitheater, and Tom Lehman-designed golf course. Encanterra recently opened a 55-plus neighborhood within the all-ages country club.

encanterragolf.com

Escondido

Horseshoe Bay, Texas

From the Tom Fazio-designed golf course to the Lake Club on Lake LBJ to the La Hacienda golf practice facility, Escondido offers Mediterranean-style living in the heart of the Texas Hill Country.

escondidotexas.com

Fiddler's Creek

Naples, Fla.

The 54,000-square-foot clubhouse is the social hub of Fiddler's Creek, but residents can get away from it all by exploring the community's nature preserves, parks, and recreational areas.

fiddlerscreek.com

Frenchman's Creek Beach & Country Club

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

An ideal day consists of complimentary breakfast, a round at one of the two courses, a lazy afternoon at the beach club, complimentary hors d'oeuvres at the clubhouse, followed by dinner at the beach club's private gazebo.

frenchmanscreek.com

Frenchman's Reserve

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

From outdoor amenities like golf on the 6,855-yard Arnold Palmer course and tennis on the lighted courts, to indoor amenities like the spa and the clubhouse, there is always something to do at this South Florida community.

frenchmansreserve.com

Glenwild

Park City, Utah

The native timber and stone clubhouse fits the surroundings at this community, while the vibrant atmosphere of Park City, with its three world-class ski resorts and the world-famous Sundance Film Festival, complements the Glenwild lifestyle.

glenwild.com

Grey Oaks Country Club

Naples, Fla.

Whether residents choose the club's famous seafood buffet or the wine-tasting events, the dining experience at Grey Oaks is the perfect end to a day spent playing one or more of the property's three courses.

greyoaksc.com

Hideaway

La Quinta, Calif.

The club's dining room provides panoramic views of the Santa Rosa Mountains from every seat. But wine connoisseurs will enjoy the sights, smells, and tastes of the 3,000-bottle wine cellar and private dining area underneath.

hideawaygolfclub.com

Ibis Golf & Country Club

West Palm Beach, Fla.

This luxury country club community, with three Nicklaus-family-designed golf courses, recently doubled its club facilities with an all-new Sports Village including a resort-style pool, full-service spa, and state-of-the-art yoga space.

ibisgolf.com

Loblolly

Hobe Sound, Fla.

The merger of Loblolly Bay Yacht Club and Loblolly Pines Golf Club created a place with amenities unusual in scope for a club of its size. Boaters enjoy a marina surrounded by lush mangroves and ocean access just three bridge-less miles north.

loblollyinfo.com

Best for Living Abroad

> Golf is a universal language, as the following 30 golf course communities from Scotland to Mexico illustrate. Just as golf is a worldwide game, so is living at a premier property.

Albany

New Providence Island, The Bahamas

Tiger Woods is one of the investors at this community centered around the Albany House estate. Ernie Els, who designed the golf course, is another. A mega-yacht marina is big enough to accommodate even Tiger's yacht.

albanybahamas.com

Apes Hill Club

St. James, Barbados

Longtime developer Landmark Land Company partnered with Wentworth, the renowned English club, to create this golf and polo community set on a former sugar plantation.

apeshillclub.com

Baha Mar

pg. 41

Nassau, The Bahamas

Billed as the largest residential and resort destination under construction in the Western Hemisphere, the beachfront Baha Mar's grand opening is set for spring 2015. Hotels, casino, shopping, and a Jack Nicklaus Signature course are in the mix. Owners can enjoy year-round personal use of their residence as a private vacation home or elect to participate in Baha Mar's rental program.

bahamar.com

Baker's Bay Golf & Ocean Club

Great Guana Cay, The Bahamas

Tom Fazio's first course in The Bahamas is just the start of the fun at this beach and ocean club 150 miles off Florida's coast. Colorful beach bungalows and bathouses are part of the relaxed life.

bakersbayclub.com

Bear Mountain

Victoria, British Columbia

This resort community located just across the border from Washington State has 36 holes, the Mountain and Valley courses, designed by Jack Nicklaus, as well as easy access to southern Vancouver Island.

bearmountain.ca

Cabo del Sol

Los Cabos, Mexico

The Ocean course by Jack Nicklaus and the Desert by Tom Weiskopf give Cabo del Sol one of the best one-two punches in the country.

cabodelsol.com

Cabo Real

San Jose del Cabo, Mexico

Located at the tip of the Baja California peninsula, Cabo Real offers fractional ownership opportunities that come with membership to the Robert Trent Jones Jr. layout, as well as access to other amenities.

caboreal.com

Casa de Campo

La Romana, Dominican Republic

You'll need multiple rounds to figure out Pete Dye's infamous Teeth of the Dog layout, and there's no better way to make that possible than by owning an oceanfront or golf course villa in the resort.

casadecampo.com.do

Christophe Harbour

St. Kitts, West Indies

Now under new ownership, progress is being made at this community that will feature a Tom Fazio layout and a mega-yacht club, which will be home to a marine village.

christopheharbour.com

CostaBaja Resort & Spa

La Paz, Mexico

Home to the first Gary Player Signature course ever built in the country, this resort and spa is set on the Sea of Cortez overlooking a 250-slip double-basin marina and beach. Ownership opportunities include Baja-inspired villas.

costabajaresort.com

Diamante Cabo San Lucas

Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

The big news here is that the world's first Tiger Woods-designed course (that has been completed) is scheduled to open by the end of 2014. El Cardonal joins the highly acclaimed Davis Love III-designed course already in play.

diamantecabosanlucas.com

El Dorado Golf & Beach Club

Los Cabos, Mexico

Situated along the Sea of Cortez, most homesites at this community offer water views, although the most memorable scene is the seaside 160-yard 16th of the Jack Nicklaus-designed layout.

eldoradogolfandbeachclub.com



Best for Winter Sports

➤ No two sports complement each other like golf and skiing. In the summer, the courses at these five mountain communities are majestic, while in the winter the cold-weather amenities reign supreme.

Club at Cordillera

Edwards, Colo

Of the four layouts at the property, the Mountain course, designed by adopted son Hale Irwin, converts in winter to the Nordic Center, which has seven miles of groomed cross-country trails. cordillera-vail.com

Spanish Peaks Mountain Club

Big Sky, Mont

The 5,700-acre community sits next to the ski areas of Big Sky Resort and Moonlight Basin, which connect to form one of the largest trail networks in North America, with 220 runs and 23 lifts. spanishpeaksmountainclub.com

Spruce Peak at Stowe

Stowe, Vt

After an exhilarating day on the slopes, Stowe Mountain Club members can get a restorative spa treatment, relax in front of a massive stone fireplace, and enjoy a well-earned meal at the alpine clubhouse. sprucepeak.com

Tuhaye

Park City, Utah

This enclave is home to the Mark O'Meara golf course that serves the larger Talisker community, which enjoys ski in/ski out access to Park City's slopes. With a 350-inch annual snowfall, those slopes are a global hotspot for skiers and snowboarders. talsker.com

The Yellowstone Club

Big Sky, Mont

This private golf and ski community offers 2,200 acres of powder-packed trails in the winter and a Tom Weiskopf-designed mountain course for the summer. Their Outdoor Pursuits program offers plenty of other adventures, like kayaking and horseback riding. yellowstoneclub.com

Best for Equestrian Facilities

➤ There are horses for courses and then there are courses with horses, as these seven properties with both superb golf and outstanding riding facilities can attest to

Balsam Mountain Preserve

Sylva, N.C

At Balsam Mountain Preserve, residents can explore over 30 miles of groomed trails in the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains on horseback and over 500,000 acres of unspoiled riding habitat in the adjacent Nantahala National Forest. balsammountainpreserve.com

Brasada Ranch

Powell Butte, Ore

At a community named Brasada Ranch, it's no surprise that horses are as welcome as their owners. With hundreds of on-property acres and thousands more on adjoining public land, there is plenty of space to roam. brasada.com

Bright's Creek

Mill Spring, N.C

The visual centerpiece of the club's equestrian community is a beautiful post-and-beam barn, surrounding acres of prime pasture, and a large jumping arena. A stable of thoroughbreds and gentle walkers are available for riding. brightscreek.com

The Club at Las Campanas

Santa Fe, N.M

The exceptional equestrian facility includes a world-class barn, large sandy turnouts, an indoor riding hall, large outdoor jumping rings, an all purpose arena, and access to 68,000 acres of open land and trails. theclubatlascampanas.com

Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club

Ocala, Fla.

The area produced 1956 Kentucky Derby winner Needles, whose success sparked a boom in Florida horse breeding. Golden Ocala continues the tradition while also offering great golf with the Ron Garl-designed layout. goldenocala.com

Rock Barn Golf & Spa

Conover, N.C

The Rock Barn equestrian center has two large riding arenas as well as 80 acres of trails and open pasture, occupying nearly as much space as the community's two courses, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. and Tom Jackson. rockbarn.com

Torreón

Show Low, Ariz

Abutting the Tonto National Forest, the rugged landscape at Torreón is the perfect setting for enjoyable trails, whether you're an experienced rider or have never been on a horse. torreon.com