

Condé Nast Traveler

SPECIAL REPORT
15 PLACES
TO SEE RIGHT
NOW!

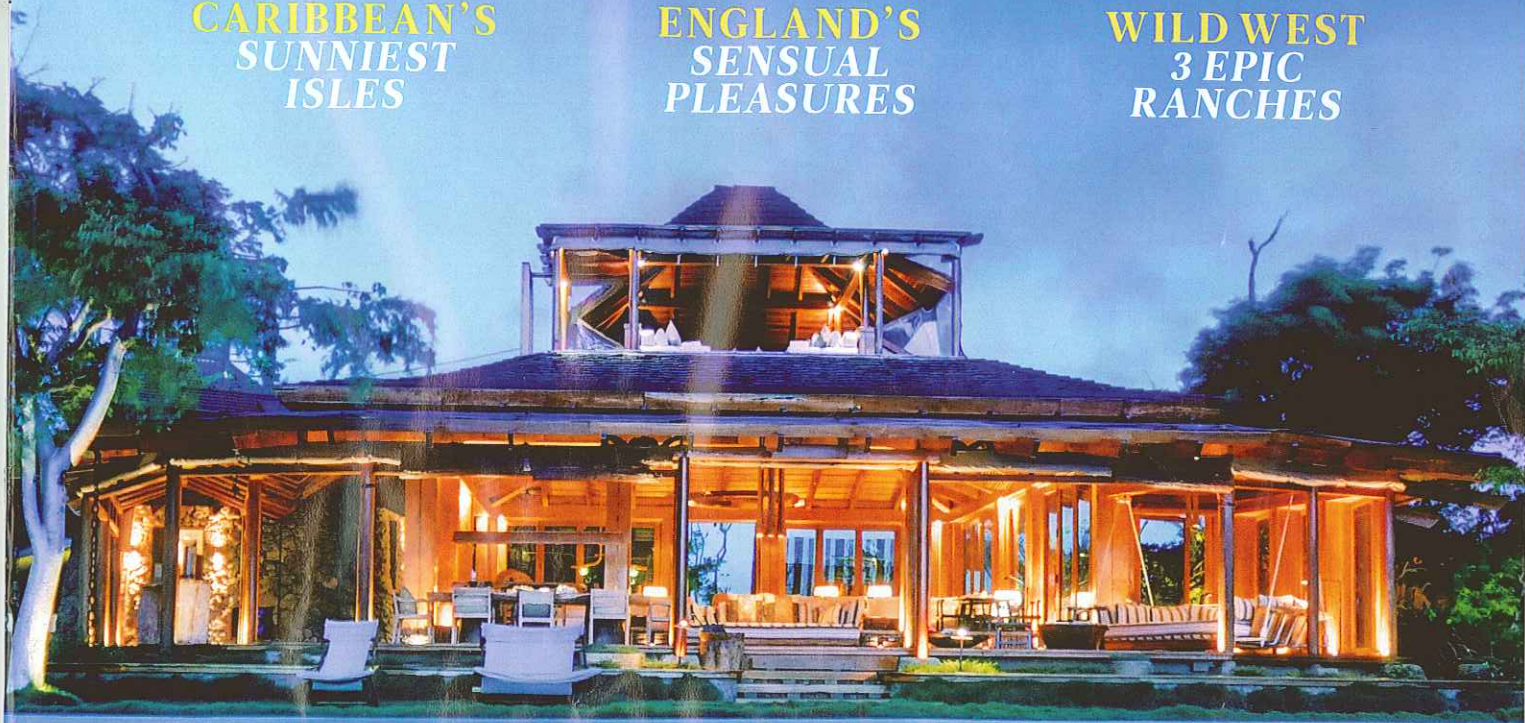
TRUTH IN TRAVEL

APRIL 2011

CARIBBEAN'S
SUNNIEST
ISLES

ENGLAND'S
SENSUAL
PLEASURES

WILD WEST
3 EPIC
RANCHES



26 TIPS FOR
STAYING SANE,
SAVING BIG,
ON FAMILY TRIPS

125
TOP GOLF
RESORTS

AFFORDABLE (From under
\$100 a night!)

VILLA
VACATIONS

1,000+ DREAM RENTALS
IN FRANCE, ITALY,
HAWAII, SPAIN, GREECE, BRAZIL,
NEW ZEALAND & MORE

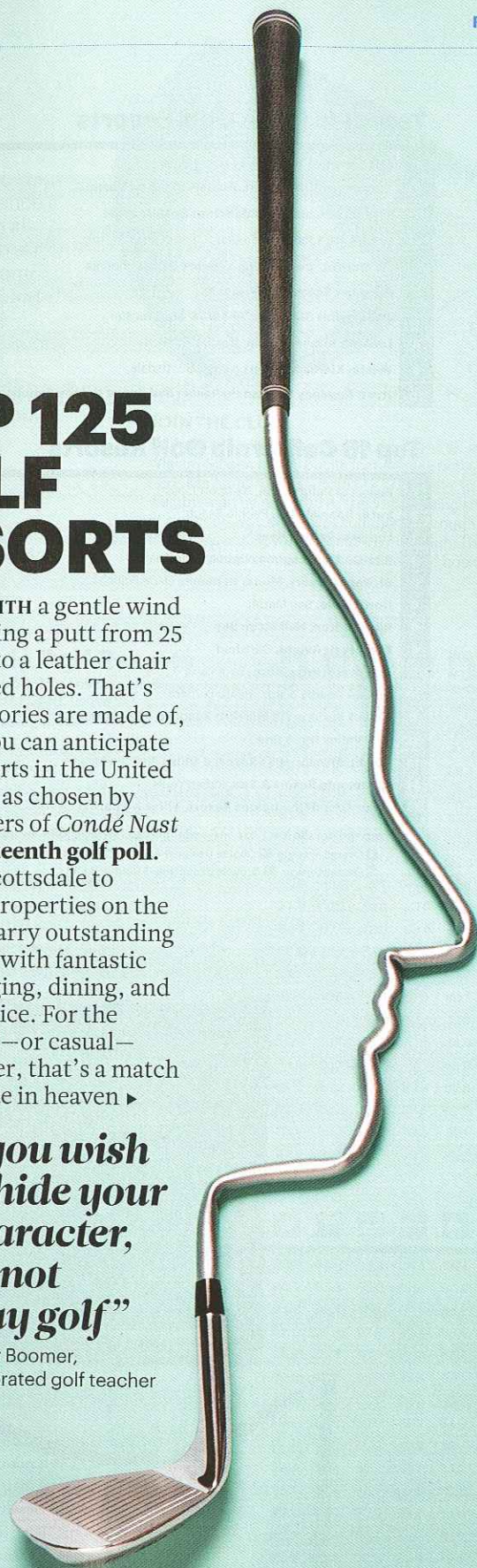
THE VOTES
ARE IN!

TOP 125 GOLF RESORTS

TEEING UP WITH a gentle wind at your back, sinking a putt from 25 feet, collapsing into a leather chair after 18 well-played holes. That's what golfing memories are made of, and that's what you can anticipate at the top golf resorts in the United States and beyond as chosen by thousands of readers of *Condé Nast Traveler* in our **fifteenth golf poll**. Stretching from Scottsdale to St. Andrews, the properties on the following pages marry outstanding golf with fantastic lodging, dining, and service. For the avid—or casual—golfer, that's a match made in heaven ▶

***“If you wish
to hide your
character,
do not
play golf”***

—Percy Boomer,
celebrated golf teacher



GUESSKIDS.COM ART DIR: PAUL MARCIANO PH: NOE B. PHOTO: JOE SOSTO 2011

"They call it golf because all the other four-letter words were taken"

—Raymond Floyd, king of the chip shot

GREEN GREENS

The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa debuts on the poll with the top score in every category among Western U.S. Golf Resorts. Opened two years ago, this Silver LEED-certified property generates 50 percent of its electricity from renewable sources.

PRO GOLF

Get a head start on the professionals and see what hazards they'll face at the Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort's Ocean Course—it will host the 2012 PGA Championship.

GROUNDS WORK

Pinehurst Resort has a staggering eight 18-hole courses. Maintaining them in playing condition is no small feat: More than 200 employees tend the 800 acres of grounds, watered by 8,000 sprinkler heads; more than 200,000 pounds of seed are added in the fall to keep the fairways green in winter; and 5,000 tons of sand are needed annually for upkeep of the sand traps.

Top 10 Northern U.S. Golf Resorts

	★	📺	📄	🏠	👤	🍴	📍	✂️	👍	\$
1 Stowe Mountain Lodge, Vt.	94.0	100	100	94.7	91.2	90.2	94.7	93.0	96.4	\$
2 West Baden Springs Hotel, Ind.	88.6	81.0	85.7	92.6	90.2	85.1	78.0	95.4	91.3	\$
3 American Club, Kohler, Wis.	88.4	99.0	95.1	89.1	93.3	90.1	77.1	87.6	87.5	\$\$
4 Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Mich.	85.7	41.7	91.7	74.9	88.2	80.1	94.7	91.2	88.0	\$\$\$
5 Inn at Bay Harbor, Mich.	85.4	90.5	85.7	85.4	84.3	76.4	93.3	87.6	83.9	\$\$
6 Grand View Lodge, Nisswa, Minn.	84.6	96.2	92.3	84.7	86.2	72.4	89.8	79.7	86.0	\$\$
7 The Sagamore, Lake George, N.Y.	83.4	89.5	84.2	78.4	81.3	80.6	92.4	85.4	81.4	\$
8 Equinox Golf Resort & Spa, Manchester, Vt.	81.6	80.0	80.0	78.8	83.2	76.2	88.1	83.3	80.3	\$
9 Otesaga Resort Hotel, Cooperstown, N.Y.	80.1	85.0	90.0	72.0	84.9	79.8	83.9	82.8	73.9	\$\$
10 Balsams Grand Resort Hotel, Dixville Notch, N.H.	79.3	90.9	90.5	66.7	82.1	82.1	83.7	74.6	82.5	\$\$

Top 10 Western U.S. Golf Resorts

	★	📺	📄	🏠	👤	🍴	📍	✂️	👍	\$
1 Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa, Avon, Colo.	96.9	100	100	98.5	95.2	94.7	97.6	97.9	97.3	\$
2 The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, Colo.	92.6	95.2	92.7	94.0	93.7	89.9	92.1	93.7	91.7	\$\$
3 Wynn Las Vegas, Nev.	91.3	84.8	93.8	95.9	88.7	91.6	87.7	93.8	90.0	\$
4 Bellagio, Las Vegas, Nev.	90.9	95.7	91.7	92.1	83.8	91.1	95.3	92.8	86.8	\$
5 Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch, Avon, Colo.	89.7	92.1	86.8	91.9	89.4	83.2	91.0	91.6	91.5	\$\$
6 Park Hyatt Beaver Creek Resort and Spa, Colo.	85.7	90.9	100	82.6	82.5	74.9	95.1	87.5	89.7	\$
7 Coeur d'Alene Resort, Idaho	85.3	96.0	98.0	84.2	82.6	78.8	92.5	83.6	83.8	\$
8 Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa, Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M.	84.8	88.2	88.2	89.9	86.0	78.8	78.8	87.9	86.5	\$
9 Sun Valley Lodge, Idaho	82.6	90.9	90.9	76.5	82.6	75.5	89.9	83.0	85.7	\$
10 Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, Bandon, Ore.	81.7	97.2	90.3	77.0	75.2	70.7	78.0	81.0	90.8	\$\$

Top 20 Southern U.S. Golf Resorts

	★	📺	📄	🏠	👤	🍴	📍	✂️	👍	\$
1 Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, S.C.	95.6	95.1	95.1	98.0	95.7	92.3	96.2	96.2	95.6	\$\$\$
2 Barnsley Gardens Resort, Adairsville, Ga.	90.3	95.0	93.2	93.7	92.5	88.8	84.6	90.6	89.2	\$\$\$
3 The Cloister, Sea Island, Ga.	90.3	97.2	94.4	95.1	90.4	81.6	88.5	91.3	90.9	\$\$\$
4 Inn at Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton, S.C.	89.2	95.7	95.7	95.0	88.0	79.6	85.8	93.0	89.4	\$\$\$
5 Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation, Greensboro, Ga.	88.4	95.5	94.0	89.4	91.9	84.4	78.4	89.9	91.8	\$
6 The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.	88.3	96.3	91.3	86.8	90.6	87.7	82.2	89.4	90.4	\$\$\$
7 Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club, Durham, N.C.	87.4	100	80.0	86.6	89.0	86.1	82.9	89.0	95.7	\$
8 Inn at Harbour Town, Hilton Head Island, S.C.	86.5	91.7	83.3	91.7	86.8	80.6	89.5	84.2	85.3	\$
9 Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, Biloxi, Miss.	86.0	92.3	92.3	89.7	83.5	80.8	88.3	88.7	84.3	\$
10 Williamsburg Inn and Colonial Houses, Va.	85.9	100	90.5	84.5	82.6	80.7	92.6	86.1	86.5	\$\$\$
11 Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa, Point Clear, Ala.	85.7	90.0	95.0	85.7	88.7	81.0	86.2	86.5	82.8	\$\$\$
12 Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort & Spa, San Antonio, Tex.	84.7	100	100	84.8	84.8	73.4	78.6	88.9	91.2	\$
13 Lodge at Sea Island Golf Club, St. Simons Island, Ga.	84.6	92.3	84.6	86.2	81.5	79.4	89.2	84.6	83.3	\$\$\$
14 Wild Dunes, Isle of Palms, S.C.	84.1	100	100	87.3	75.0	74.6	90.4	84.9	87.1	\$\$\$
15 The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.	83.9	94.9	88.5	78.7	85.4	79.6	82.2	86.1	87.1	\$\$\$
16 Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas at Las Colinas, Tex.	83.8	91.9	94.6	86.3	85.1	82.7	71.4	85.0	87.8	\$
17 Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa, Asheville, N.C.	83.5	73.4	82.5	77.3	84.2	81.9	89.5	85.2	83.8	\$
18 Barton Creek Resort & Spa, Austin, Tex.	82.5	93.3	90.4	82.6	82.7	75.6	77.3	83.1	86.3	\$
19 Tides Inn, Irvington, Va.	81.9	78.1	96.9	79.3	84.1	81.8	83.0	78.2	78.3	\$\$\$
20 Pinehurst Resort, N.C.	81.3	92.9	92.0	64.3	83.9	75.4	81.4	80.6	89.7	\$\$\$

Rates are for the least-expensive double during peak golf season: \$ = \$349 and under; \$\$ = \$350-\$499; \$\$\$ = \$500 or more.

★ Overall average 📺 Course Design & Access 📄 Golf Staff & Services 🏠 Rooms 👤 Service 🍴 Food/Dining 📍 Location ✂️ Overall Design 🧦 Activities/Facilities \$ Double Room



TOOLS of the TRADE | PUMA \$75

SURE FOOTING

Rolled out in three different color schemes (the yellow-gray combo is shown here), Puma's Golf Cat Women's NM combines spectacular form with sterling function. The brogue detailing on the toe is a modest contrast to the fun track-star hues, while the rubber-spiked sole and water-resistant full-grain leather upper promise traction and comfort in all conditions. If only your tee shots were this pretty (puma.com).

METHODOLOGY

Condé Nast Traveler's 2011 Golf Poll results were derived from our 2010 Readers' Choice Survey, whose questionnaire was available through a secure Web site. Tabulation of the 25,916 responses was done by Global Market Insight, Inc., of Boston. Golf resorts were rated excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on eight criteria: Course Design & Access, Golf Staff & Services, Rooms, Service, Food/Dining, Location, Overall Design, and Activities/Facilities. Criterion scores, which represent the percentage of respondents who rated a golf resort excellent or very good, were averaged to determine the overall score. Only resorts that received a required minimum number of responses were included in these rankings.

STYLING BY JENS MORTENSEN