

Gorgeous Golf on Amelia

As countless happy golfers will attest, Amelia Island is home to 117 holes of stunning, world-class golf. Some of the world's best golf architects – Dye, Fazio, Palmer and others – have partnered with Mother Nature herself, creating some of the region's best golf out of the island's beautiful natural landscape. From oceanfront holes and oak-lined fairways, to Intracoastal marsh preserves teeming with wildlife, the links of Amelia Island offer irresistible play for golfers of every skill level.

Omni Amelia Island Plantation

A 1,350-acre sanctuary nestled on the southern tip of the island, Omni Amelia Island Plantation is surrounded by the ocean and captivating green salt marshes and boasts 54 championship holes, each course recognized as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. The property is consistently named a GOLF Magazine Silver Medal Resort, was rated among Golf Digest's 2016 Editors' Choice Awards Best Golf Resorts in the Americas and named by Condé Nast Traveler as one of the Top 121 Golf Resorts in the World in 2012. It is one of the few resorts in the world touting both a Pete Dye and Tom Fazio course combination – 19,477 yards of masterfully sculpted links. In 2014, The Omni Amelia Island Plantation hosted the Golf Channel's reality series "Big Break Florida." The resort offers three signature courses designed by Pete Dye, Bobby Weed and Tom Fazio – Oak Marsh, Ocean Links and Long Point. Ocean Links winds along the coastal Atlantic dune ridge, offering golfers five breathtaking oceanfront holes. Making the course more challenging, 10 holes also feature lagoons and marsh wetlands. The equally exhilarating Oak Marsh course offers a breathtakingly scenic 18-hole, par 72, Pete Dye design, featuring 14 holes with water hazards and several bulkheaded greens. Tom Fazio's Long Point is a pleasant surprise for Florida golfers, with its rolling fairways, natural waste bunkers, two back-to-back oceanfront Par threes and elevations up to 30 feet. Built in 1987, it has earned top honors from Golf Digest as one of the "Best Places to Play." The Omni Amelia Island Plantation Golf Academy, directed by Mike Block, offers students individualized one-on-one and take-home video instruction.

In addition to Omni Amelia Island Plantation's 54 holes of golf, the resort offers golf clinics, private lessons, golf packages, two practice ranges, two putting greens, two clubhouses and two pro shops, one with personalized embroidery availability.

The Golf Club of Amelia Island

Adjacent to The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island and Summer Beach Resort, the Golf Club of Amelia Island was designed by PGA Tour professionals Mark McCumber and Gene Littler. The Golf Club of Amelia Island is a championship course, and offers guests of Summer Beach Resort and The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island exclusive playing privileges at this otherwise private course. "Stay and Play" packages are also available from the Residence Inn Amelia Island and the Hampton Inn Amelia Island at the Beach. The

6,696-yards of challenging, beautifully landscaped golf weaves through marshes and lakes, and puts water in play on 13 holes. The course delivers challenging long par fours and short par threes and fives. Woven through the island's natural marshes, the back nine is bordered with tall trees and dotted with lake obstacles and narrow landing areas. The showcase of the front nine is the par three, 160-yard fifth hole. Play from the championship tee requires a drive over 150 yards of water to a bulk-headed green banked by bunkers, one on the left and one on the right. The Golf Club of Amelia Island offers a golf academy, which features individual private lessons for all ages and skill levels, video analysis, clinics, junior camps and a complimentary swing analysis for all students. In addition to playing privileges, guests at both resorts can access the practice range, two putting greens, pro shop and clubhouse.

Fernandina Beach Golf Club

The 27-hole Fernandina Beach Golf Club is widely considered one of the most popular municipal golf facilities in the country. Like the other courses on the island, the three nines are characterized by more than 10,000 yards of diversity and natural beauty. Each nine-hole course offers more than 3,000 yards from the tips and presents a unique challenge for golfers of all handicaps. The south nine provides a scenic course teeming with water hazards and woods of magnolias and hickories. The north nine, offering 3,094 yards, is comprised of wide fairways and small elevated greens guarded by bunkers. The west nine offers a par 37 experience and includes three par fives, with the second hole featuring 607 yards. The club also offers a driving range, full service restaurant and snack bar and a pro shop.

Amelia River Golf Club

Amelia River is an 18-hole, 6,808-yard Tom Jackson design golf course with ball control and accuracy being the keys to a great round. Renowned as one of Northeast Florida's best conditioned courses, with incredibly smooth TifEagle greens, it is sculpted in and around a forest of majestic Live Oaks, Sabal Palms, pines and wax myrtles. The well-manicured rolling fairways, smooth bunkers and quick-paced greens will challenge golfers of all skill levels. The signature 17th hole is a par three surrounded by water and the par five 18th hole finishes at the river's expansive tidal marsh. This semi-private course is open to the public and features an onsite restaurant, River Café.

Many of the island's hotels, resorts and inns offer golf packages available year-round, combining the relaxed atmosphere of the island with a long-time favorite pastime.

For visitor information and online planning, visit www.ameliaisland.com.

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