

The Top 100 Courses Issue p.64

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THE GOLF MAGAZINE INTERVIEW LANNY WADKINS

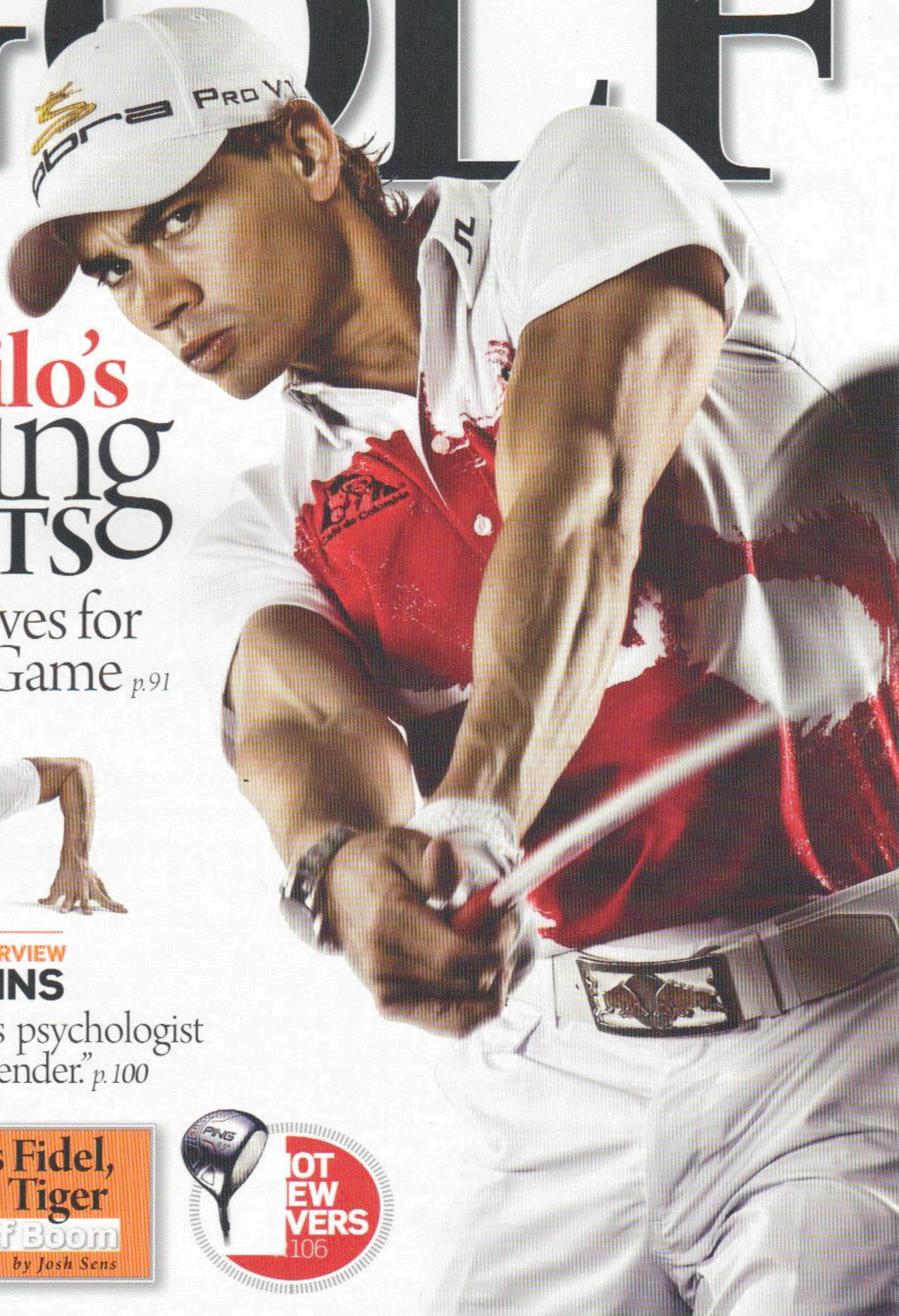
"My idea of a sports psychologist
was a friendly bartender." p.100



Adios Fidel, Hello Tiger

Inside Cuba's Golf Boom

by Josh Sens





The TOP 100 COURSES IN THE U.S. AND THE WORLD

These lists are the most thorough and respected rankings in golf—and a banner celebration of the greatest courses on the planet

THE WORLD'S best golfers endure perpetual scrutiny. But the world's best courses? Not so much. Sure, some enjoy bursts of publicity when hosting Tiger, Phil and Co., but most toil quietly, verdant masterpieces played—and critiqued—by a fortunate few.

That is why our biannual ranking of the Top 100 Courses in the U.S. and the World is so meaningful. Whether you agree with the results or not, these are the most thorough and respected rankings in golf—and a banner celebration of the greatest courses on the planet.

Pine Valley remains the undisputed king of the rankings, topping both the U.S. and World lists, but this year 14 newcomers have made the breakthrough. One of them—Chambers Bay in Washington State—cracked our World Top 100 despite being newer than some of the balls in your bag. The first-timers represent a staggering variety of imagination and destinations, spanning the globe from Portugal to the Monterey Peninsula. Congratulations to each, and welcome to the club.

Joe Passov, Top 100 Chairman

THE TOP 100 WORLD COURSES

2009 Rank	2007 Rank	Course Name Architect/Year Opened	Average Score	2009 Rank	2007 Rank	Course Name Architect/Year Opened	Average Score
1	1	Pine Valley Pine Valley, N.J. George Crump/H.S. Colt, 1918	95.75	51	55	Garden City Golf Club Garden City, N.Y. Devereux Emmet, 1899	51.93
2	2	Cypress Point Pebble Beach, Calif. Alister MacKenzie, 1928	92.24	52	47	Los Angeles (North) Los Angeles, Calif. George Thomas, 1921	51.81
3	4	Augusta National Augusta, Ga. Alister MacKenzie/Bobby Jones, 1933	85.71	53	62	Royal Lytham & St. Annes St. Annes on Sea, England George Lowe Jr., 1897	51.59
4	3	St. Andrews (Old Course) St. Andrews, Scotland Nature, 1400s	85.65	54	46	Morfontaine Senlis, France Tom Simpson, 1927	51.35
5	7	Royal County Down Newcastle, N. Ireland Old Tom Morris, 1889	82.53	55	60	Nine Bridges Jeju Island, South Korea Ron Fream/David Dale, 2001	51.03
6	6	Shinnecock Hills Southampton, N.Y. William Flynn, 1931	81.83	56	53	Woodhall Spa Woodhall Spa, England H. Vardon, 1905/H.S. Colt, 1912/V. Hatchkin, 1926	50.64
7	5	Pebble Beach Pebble Beach, Calif. Jack Neville/Douglas Grant, 1919	81.30	57	52	Oak Hill (East) Rochester, N.Y. Donald Ross, 1923	50.47
8	9	Oakmont Oakmont, Pa. Henry Fownes, 1903	77.91	58	57	Bandon Dunes Bandon, Ore. David McLay Kidd, 1999	50.42
9	8	Muirfield Gullane, Scotland Old Tom Morris, 1891/H.S. Colt, 1925	76.51	59	59	The Golf Club New Albany, Ohio Pete Dye, 1967	50.00
10	10	Merion (East) Ardmore, Pa. Hugh Wilson, 1912	74.63	60	51	Southern Hills Tulsa, Okla. Perry Maxwell, 1936	49.07
11	11	Sand Hills Mullen, Neb. Bill Coore/Ben Crenshaw, 1994	74.14	61	61	Kingsbarns St. Andrews, Scotland Kyle Phillips, 1999	48.87
12	16	National Golf Links of America Southampton, N.Y. C.B. Macdonald, 1911	73.68	62	58	Medinah (No. 3) Medinah, Ill. Tom Bendelow, 1928	47.89
13	12	Royal Portrush (Dunluce) Portrush, N. Ireland H.S. Colt, 1929	70.81	63	69	Ganton Ganton, England Harry Vardon, 1905	47.87
14	15	Royal Melbourne (West) Melbourne, Australia Alister MacKenzie, 1926	69.48	64	66	Loch Lomond Luss, Scotland Tom Weiskopf/Jay Morrish, 1994	45.99
15	18	Royal Dornoch Dornoch, Scotland Old Tom Morris, 1886	67.66	65	67	Maidstone East Hampton, N.Y. John Park/Willie Park Jr., 1891	45.07
16	13	Pacific Dunes Bandon, Ore. Tom Doak, 2001	67.29	66	74	Camargo Indian Hill, Ohio Seth Raynor, 1921	44.86
17	19	Turnberry (Ailsa) Turnberry, Scotland Willie Fernie, 1909/P. MacKenzie Ross, 1951	67.16	67	65	Winged Foot (East) Mamaroneck, N.Y. A.W. Tillinghast, 1923	44.85
18	14	Ballybunion (Old) Ballybunion, Ireland P. Murphy, 1893/Tom Simpson, 1936	67.10	68	71	Inverness Toledo, Ohio Donald Ross, 1919	44.74
19	17	Pinehurst (No. 2) Pinehurst, N.C. Donald Ross, 1907	66.48	69	77	Old Sandwich Plymouth, Mass. Bill Coore/Ben Crenshaw, 2004	44.29
20	22	Crystal Downs Frankfort, Mich. Alister MacKenzie/Perry Maxwell, 1932	65.17	70	64	Quaker Ridge Scarsdale, N.Y. A.W. Tillinghast, 1926	44.18
21	20	Seminole Juno Beach, Fla. Donald Ross, 1929	64.73	71	73	Shoreacres Lake Bluff, Ill. Seth Raynor, 1921	44.09
22	24	Carnoustie (C'shp) Carnoustie, Scotland A. Robertson, 1842/T. Morris, 1872/I. Braid, 1926	64.09	72	75	Royal Adelaide Adelaide, Australia Alister MacKenzie, 1926	44.05
23	21	Winged Foot (West) Mamaroneck, N.Y. A.W. Tillinghast, 1923	63.67	73	70	Harbour Town Hilton Head Island, S.C. Pete Dye/Jack Nicklaus, 1969	43.70
24	27	Chicago Golf Club Wheaton, Ill. C.B. Macdonald, 1895/Seth Raynor, 1923	62.86	74	87	Kawana (Fuji) Kawana, Japan C.H. Alison/Kinya Fujita, 1936	43.64
25	25	Prairie Dunes Hutchinson, Kan. Perry Maxwell, 1937/Press Maxwell, 1957	62.17	75	76	Nanea Kailua-Kona, Hawaii David McLay Kidd, 2003	43.50
26	23	San Francisco G.C. San Francisco, Calif. A.W. Tillinghast, 1918	62.14	76	89	Valderrama Sotogrande, Spain Robert Trent Jones, 1975	43.33
27	26	Kingston Heath Melbourne, Australia Des Soutar, 1925/Alister MacKenzie, 1928	62.11	77	NEW	Chambers Bay University Place, Wash. Robert Trent Jones II, 2007	43.33
28	28	Oakland Hills (South) Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Donald Ross, 1917/Robert Trent Jones, 1950	60.89	78	63	Kauri Cliffs Kerikeri, New Zealand David Harman, 2000	43.14
29	30	Royal Birkdale Southport, England George Lowe Jr., 1889/Fred Hawtree, 1932	60.50	79	86	Somerset Hills Bernardsville, N.J. A.W. Tillinghast, 1918	43.02
30	29	Riviera Pacific Palisades, Calif. George Thomas/Billy Bell Sr., 1926	58.56	80	80	Royal Liverpool Hoylake, England George Morris, 1869	42.77
31	31	Fishers Island Fishers Island, N.Y. Seth Raynor, 1926	58.33	81	68	Cruden Bay Cruden Bay, Scotland Herbert Fowler/Tom Simpson, 1926	42.67
32	33	Friar's Head Baiting Hollow, N.Y. Bill Coore/Ben Crenshaw, 2003	58.33	82	81	Walton Heath (Old) Tadworth, England Herbert Fowler, 1904	42.38
33	38	Sunningdale (Old) Sunningdale, England Willie Park Jr., 1901/H.S. Colt, 1922	57.23	83	82	Ballyneal Holyoke, Colo. Tom Doak, 2006	42.19
34	39	Royal St. George's Sandwich, England Laidlaw Purves, 1887	57.20	84	95	Swinley Forest Ascot, England H.S. Colt, 1910	41.96
35	32	Bethpage (Black) Farmingdale, N.Y. A.W. Tillinghast, 1935	57.05	85	78	European Club Brittas Bay, Ireland Pat Ruddy, 1992	41.67
36	41	Cape Kidnappers Hawke's Bay, New Zealand Tom Doak, 2004	56.75	86	79	Highland Links Ingonish, Nova Scotia, Canada Stanley Thompson, 1935	41.56
37	34	The Country Club Brookline, Mass. Willie Campbell, 1895/Rees Jones, 1985	56.55	87	72	Royal Melbourne (East) Melbourne, Australia Alex Russell, 1932	41.36
38	36	New South Wales La Perouse, Australia Alister MacKenzie, 1928/Eric Apperly, 1947	55.69	88	NEW	Oitavos Dunes Cascais, Portugal Arthur Hills, 2001	40.38
39	37	Hirono Kobe, Japan C.H. Alison, 1932	54.31	89	92	St. George's Islington, Ontario, Canada Stanley Thompson, 1929	40.24
40	40	Whistling Straits (Straits) Haven, Wis. Pete Dye, 1998	54.22	90	85	Spyglass Hill Pebble Beach, Calif. Robert Trent Jones, 1966	40.13
41	45	Olympic (Lake) San Francisco, Calif. Sam Whiting, 1924	53.86	91	NEW	Waterville Waterville, Ireland Eddie Hackett, 1973/Tom Fazio, 2006	40.00
42	43	Casa de Campo (Teeth of the Dog) La Romana, Dominican Republic Pete Dye, 1971	53.82	92	97	Machrihanish Machrihanish, Scotland Charles Hunter, 1876/Old Tom Morris, 1879	39.13
43	35	Barnbougle Dunes Bridport, Australia Tom Doak, 2004	53.75	93	98	North Berwick (West) North Berwick, Scotland David Strath, 1878	38.77
44	54	Lahinch Golf Club Lahinch, Ireland Old Tom Morris, 1893/Alister MacKenzie, 1927	53.47	94	96	Durban Country Club Durban, South Africa Laurie Waters/George Waterman, 1922	38.75
45	49	Portmarnock (Old) Portmarnock, Ireland George Ross/W.C. Pickeman/Mungo Park, 1894	52.47	95	88	Cabo del Sol (Ocean) Los Cabos, Mexico Jack Nicklaus, 1994	38.48
46	42	Muirfield Village Dublin, Ohio Jack Nicklaus/Desmond Muirhead, 1974	52.43	96	83	Scioto Columbus, Ohio Donald Ross, 1916	38.37
47	48	Kiawah Island (Ocean) Kiawah Island, S.C. Pete Dye, 1991	52.33	97	84	Tokyo Tokyo, Japan Komei Ohtani, 1940	38.33
48	44	Royal Troon (Old) Troon, Scotland Willie Fernie, 1887/James Braid, 1923	52.21	98	NEW	Valley Club of Montecito Santa Barbara, Calif. Alister MacKenzie/Robert Hunter, 1929	38.30
49	50	Baltusrol (Lower) Springfield, N.J. A.W. Tillinghast, 1922	52.17	99	94	Naruo Osaka, Japan H.C. Crane, 1904/C.H. Alison, 1930	37.86
50	56	TPC Sawgrass (PLAYERS Stadium) Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Pete Dye, 1981	52.07	100	NEW	Royal Porthcawl Porthcawl, Wales H.S. Colt, 1913	37.83

MAIN PHOTO: ERIC HEPWORTH; INSETS, L. TO R.: COURTESY THE FARM AT CAPE KIDNAPPERS; EVAN SCHILLER; LARRY LAMBRECHT; ADAM BRADLEY

HOW WE RANK THEM

We don't tell our panelists what constitutes greatness in a golf course. They tell us. Each panelist considers factors such as design rhythm, creativity, setting and conditioning, but the value of each category is left to each panelist's discretion. Our 100 voting members hail from 17 countries and include major championship winners, Ryder Cup players, architects, amateur champions, photographers, journalists, historians and a small but fiercely passionate crew of course connoisseurs (a dozen in all) who have played at least one entire edition of *Golf Magazine's* Top 100 Courses in the World.

Each course that places in the top three on a panelist's ballot earns 100 points; spots 4-10 earn 85 points, followed by 11-25 (70 points), 26-50 (60 points), 51-75 (50 points), 76-100 (40 points), 101-150 (30 points), 151-200 (20 points), 201-250 (10 points), and 251+ (0 points). Any course that received a "remove from ballot" vote has 10 points deducted. Architects on the panel are not permitted to vote for their own original designs, nor can course owners vote for their own properties.

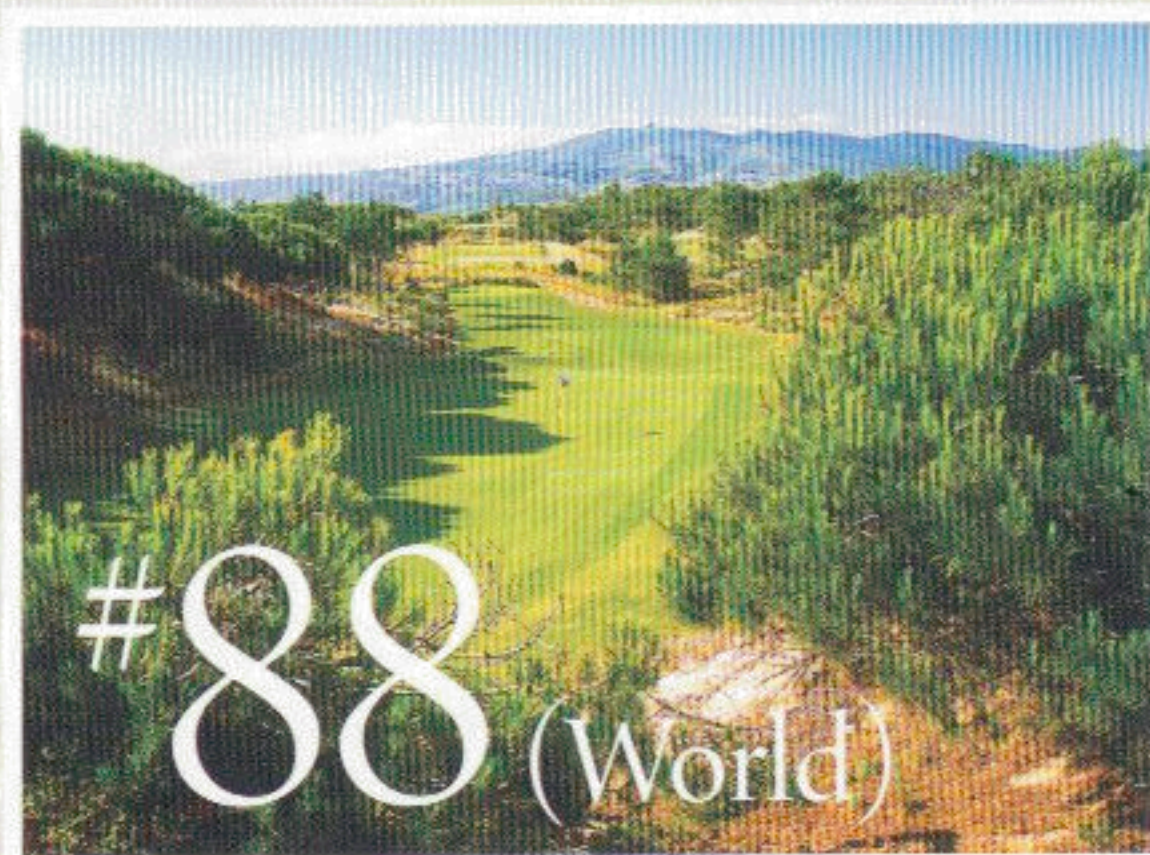
For more information and a full list of our panelists, visit golf.com/topcourses.

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TOP
100
COURSES
IN THE
U.S.
AND THE
WORLD



OITAVOS DUNES #88



OITAVOS DUNES

#88 World

How good is Oitavos Dunes? It has "the potential to be the best course in Europe," said Irish Ryder Cup hero Paul McGinley. Home to a European Tour event, Oitavos is a 2001 Arthur Hills seaside design 30 miles west of Lisbon. Lead architect Drew Rogers benefited from a rolling landscape of scrub-covered dunes, umbrella pines and open coastal areas, along with multiple views of the Atlantic Ocean, but give him and his team credit for the diversity of holes and required shots.

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OITAVOS DUNES

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