

GOLF IS BETTER IN PURE MICHIGAN

With the sun shining and warm breezes blowing every Golfaholic's mind wanders to traveling to new and exciting golf destinations.

July, August and September are the perfect months to visit northern Michigan for one of the best golf trips a golfer could ever imagine.

Most sources list over 1,000 courses in the peninsula state, so the problem becomes, how does one choose where to start?

We recently completed a four-day tour of Michigan golf resorts and here is our report.

Arcadia Bluffs Golf Club

A great place to start any Michigan Golf Adventure would be **Arcadia Bluffs Golf Club** carved from huge sand dunes, perched above Lake Michigan that provide magnificent views. The Bluffs Course opened for play in 1999 and has become one of the most popular public golf courses in the state.

The course was built to resemble an Irish Links, with

numerous deep bunkers and steep sand dunes, covered with tall fescue providing a stern challenge. On a day, when the fog rolls in from the lake, or the breezes blow while a light rain falls, golfers are transported to the land of the Shamrock.

Once a player reaches the green, the large undulating putting surfaces make two-putts a thing to be cherished, three or even four putts are a common occurrence.



New cottages have been built near the entrance, plus a new Inn was built beside the beautiful clubhouse to provide suitable lodging for those golfers wanting stay & play options.

Dana Fry, who was one of the designers at Erin Hills, designed the new South Course at Arcadia Bluffs, that will open for play later this summer. Fry has used geometrical shapes and sharp angles to add a new flavor to the South Course and it will be a valuable addition to the Arcadia Bluffs total package.

Golfers can now enjoy two great courses at Arcadia, plus the restaurant provides a menu filled with delicious fare. Diners are served up the magnificent views of the course and the lake, from the highest point on the property. Adirondack chairs placed above the 18th green provide the perfect place to enjoy your favorite beverage, while taking in a gorgeous Lake Michigan sunset.

Treetops Resort

For the second leg of our golfing odyssey, we headed to the **Treetops Resort** at Gaylord, Michigan. The granddaddy of Michigan golf offers four championship courses, plus



the “Best Par-3” course in the country, Threetops.

Threetops opened for play in 1992 and hosted ESPN’s Par 3 Shootout for several years. In 2001, Lee Trevino made golfing history there, as he pocketed the first \$1 million check for a hole-in-one. A plaque still marks the spot.

Treetops is just one reason to visit the **Gaylord Golf Mecca**. Seven Golf Resorts in the Gaylord area offer 14 various golfing experiences from par-3’s to championship golf at its finest. In addition to great golf, the Gaylord area offers a myriad of outdoor activities to please the entire family.

Hiking, biking, kayaking, swimming, boating and, of course, fishing awaits every visitor to the Gaylord area. Famous course designers, Robert Trent Jones, Tom Doak, Rick Smith, and others have ventured to northern Michigan to design courses that will please every golfer.

