

The latest deals and offers from the best destinations at home and abroad

Suffolk Golf Festival returns for second year

THORPENESS Golf Club and Hotel is set to host the second annual Festival of Golf over its heathland layout this July.

Following on from the success of inaugural staging last year, the three day festival will run from July 29-31 and is played over the 93-year-old East Anglian layout.

Ajay Anthony, general manager at Thorpeness Golf Club & Hotel, said: "Thorpeness is an ideal destination for a summer golf festival, a quintessential English seaside village with a great golf course surrounded by outstanding natural beauty."

"We are offering a range of options to golfers, from great value golf breaks packages for the entire festival, to pay and play entries into competitions and social events for golfers local to Suffolk."

"Golfers don't need to leave British shores this summer in search of quality courses and fine weather, the Suffolk Coast enjoys a special micro-climate with less rainfall and more sunshine per week than any other part of the UK."

For more information of the Suffolk Golf Festival and how to book your spot, visit thorpeness.co.uk

New Pennines 'trail'

GOLF Tourism England has launched a new trail to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Pennine Way to prove that 'the game is not a good walk spoiled'. The Pennines Golf Trail showcases five top courses with the trail designed so visitors can play all the courses over a week. Golf Tourism England's Andrew Cooke said it was "pleasing that the five courses from two counties, linked together by the Pennines, have decided to collaborate in such a positive way".

For more information on the trail, log-on to golftoursinternational.co.uk



HOTSPOT This summer, try the brand new Pennine Golf Trail

Golf in Poland? You might be stunned by its 'hidden gems'

There are three incredible regions in which to explore great golf courses

WHILE the game of golf may well still be in its infancy in Poland, there is already a diverse offering of world-class golf courses in place.

In particular, the stunning northern regions of Warminko-Mazurskie, Pomorskie and Zachodniopomorskie give golfers the chance to experience somewhere new with an abundance of immaculately conditioned golf courses, offering a variety of challenge for all abilities.

Warminko-Mazurskie is described by the Polish National Tourist Office as a 'modern and dynamically developing region', which sits in the north east of the country. There you'll find two fantastic courses within 100km of Gdansk airport that are certainly worth a visit, namely Sand Valley Golf and Country Club and Mazury Golf and Country Club.

Sand Valley was opened in 2009 and is an 18-hole championship golf course that is set-up for an exciting and challenging round of golf, while Hawthtree Ltd designed the layout at Mazury and it offers great fun in luxurious surroundings.

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The Pomorskie region is situated in the north of the country and features a number of golf courses close to the three main cities in the area, Gdansk, Sopot and Gdynia.

Sierra Golf Club is the standout course and was designed by Cameron Sinclair. Always presented in immaculate condition, the views across the layout are stunning.

MAGNIFICENT

Finally, there is the Zachodniopomorskie region, which sits in the very heart of Europe in the north west of Poland. Here you'll find four magnificent courses, including Modry Las, which was included in the list constructed by the Top Golf Courses in Europe.

Bogdan Becla, acting director from the Polish National Tourist Office, said: "We are extremely proud of the quality of our golf courses in Poland and we are intent on spreading the message to avid golf travellers that our doors are open for them to come and experience a golf holiday that delivers both on and off the course."



STUNNING The incredibly inviting Sierra Golf Club, situated in the Pomorskie region of Poland, is one of Europe's great golfing discoveries



OFFER Atholl Palace Hotel

Scots hotel offers luxury golf package

GOLFERS looking to enjoy a relaxing short break in the Scottish countryside can now include Atholl Palace Hotel in Pitlochry as one of the 'must-visit' hotels.

The Perthshire hotel has unveiled its new golf package in partnership with Pitlochry Golf Course. The two-night package is perfect for any keen golfer looking to play a first class golf course followed by a luxury stay in the four-star hotel.

The package also includes complimentary access to the hotel's newly refurbished Lavender Spa and leisure facilities including a sauna and solarium, swimming pool and tennis courts.

Graeme Strachan, general manager at Atholl Palace Hotel, said: "We anticipate that golf fanatics will snap up dates throughout the year."

The two-night golf package starts at £149pp and is subject to accommodation and availability. For more info or to book, visit athollpalace.com or call 01796 473400

Assoufid GC up for top golf course gong

RECENTLY named 'Africa's Best New Golf Course 2014', Assoufid Golf Club has been nominated for the award of 'Morocco's Best Golf Course 2015' at this year's World Golf Awards.

The desert-style 18-hole layout, left, is situated close to the wonderfully cultural city of Marrakech and is set against the backdrop of North Africa's snow-capped Atlas Mountains, making it an incredible place to play. Despite only officially opening for play in October last year, the debut design from Scottish PGA Professional Niall Cameron is continuing to attract recognition from around the globe.

The club is a 10-minute drive from the city's international airport and forms part of an exquisite 222-hectare development, which will include a hospitality and residential component. The development offers golfers an excitingly diverse challenge across a rolling desert

landscape featuring cacti, palm and olive trees.

Guy Maxwell, golf director at Assoufid Golf Club, said: "Marrakech is rapidly emerging as one of the Europe, Middle East and Asian region's must-visit golf destinations and the opening of Assoufid Golf Club continues to attract much interest. To illustrate this, since opening, we have received over 50 'Excellent', or '5-star' reviews on Trip Advisor.

"We are proud to be nominated for the World Golf Awards' 'Best Golf Course in Morocco 2015' as we are focussed on delivering the country's finest golfing experience through proper golf course maintenance and high levels of customer service."

The 2015 World Golf Awards ceremony will take place in Portugal on November 7. To learn more about Assoufid Golf Club, visit assoufid.com

