

# JAPAN

With the Olympics heading to Tokyo Peter Ellegard packs his laptop along with his camera and heads to the land of the rising sun

## FRANCE

Mouthwatering gastronomy, tastebud tantalising wines and some wonderful golf courses, Alsace has it all

## AUSTRALIA

With the philosophy of the more you do, the more you can do in mind, Jane Finn heads to Queensland

## TRAVEL FASHION

A look into the world of Sustainable Fashion and the essential 13 items for men to pack

PLANET GOLF

# REVIEW

ISSUE 19

## THE OPEN

Our review and guide to the last Major Championship of the year

## STAY, PLAY & SPA

Featuring Fairways and Bluewater in Borocay, Philippines and Yamaha Resort Katsuragi Kitanomaru, Shizuoka, Japan

## EQUIPMENT & APPAREL REVIEWS

Featuring Bozily, Cobra, Ping, TaylorMade and Original Penguin

# VIEW

.COM

# WELCOME

As we move into the second summer of COVID I am sure the feelings of everyone here at the magazine mirror yours. We were all looking forward to travelling again this year but that has now been put on hold and the thoughts of finally soaking up some sun on a beach somewhere have to wait. On a more positive note, the vaccine programme seems to be working well and hopefully they can come up with a booster that will protect us from some of the more aggressive variants and with two of my nephews in their 20s suffering long COVID I hope that you and your families stay in good health.

While we can all enjoy exploring what our own countries have to offer, it's always good to plan ahead and with that in mind we bring you some wonderful destinations in this issue. A week after this issue goes live the Olympic games commence in Tokyo and Peter not only brings his wonderful ability in capturing a country in photos, he has also put fingers

to keyboard to bring his love/hate relationship with Mt Fuji. Jane heads south of the equator to Australia and Queensland, while Charmaine and myself head to Alsace in France and Lesha brings you part two of her focus on sustainability, this time featuring men's fashion.

On the golf side we have reviews of one of this year's most popular drivers, the Cobra RadSpeed, along with Ping's new G425 Irons, TaylorMade's 2021TP5 and TP5x ball. This issue's apparel review is Original Penguin and their new sustainability spring/summer 2021 range. On the tech side we bring you a review of the Bozily Golf rangefinder and see how it compares with the top selling brands on the market.

We may not all be able to travel right now but we can dream and plan for when that day arrives - and boy are we going to be prepared when that traffic light hits green!

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# REVIEW



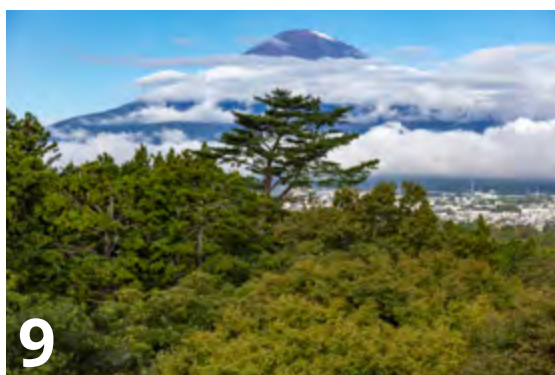
Cover Image: Miqutos

## Interactive links

By clicking on the interactive links on the cover headlines, contents headlines or section opening image will take you to the start of each feature and by clicking on the word contents at the bottom of each page this will take you straight back to the contents page.

There are also links that will take you to video reviews and links on our adverts that will take you directly to their websites. All this means you don't have to scroll through the magazine - unless you want to - just a click will take you to the feature you are looking for.





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Tranquility is a theme in both of our reviews from Boracay, Philippines and Shizuoka, Japan

# PLANETGOLF

# REVIEW







Jason Livy

# LIVE AND LET DIE

After a year off The Open is back with and 30k spectators each day the roars and cheers that echo round a links course will be back. The big yellow scoreboard and those stands that line the 18th fairway to welcome the Champion Golfer Of The Year on Sunday afternoon. We take a look at the players we feel most likely to lift the claret jug after that amazing walk

I am in my car driving down the A2 towards Sandwich with the excitement building - Ian Flemming used the name Royal St Mark's in his Goldfinger novel and maybe that was to put people off trying to find this Kent jewel and host to the first Open Championship outside of Scotland. Can you guess where I am heading to yet? If you have you can appreciate my obvious excitement.

Yes today I tee it up at Royal St George's Golf Club, host to fourteen Open Championships and one of the toughest courses you are ever likely to play. Jack Nicklaus shot an 83 here in the 1981 Open Championship and Tiger Woods lost a ball on the first hole in 2003 - this is a course that has no respect for reputations and I am not sure →

JON RAHM

7|1



Callaway

XANDER SCHAUFFELE

20|1



TaylorMade

JORDAN SPIETH

20|1



Peetlesnumber1



## TOMMY FLEETWOOD

40|1



Asian Tour

## SHANE LOWRY

40|1



Srixon

## BRANDEN GRACE

70|1



Volvo China Open/ DENKERFOTO.COM

you will find a flat lie anywhere on the course and that includes the greens!

I love links golf and the way it makes you think about every shot you play but Royal St George's is a links course that even on the calmest day still packs a heavyweight punch. But when you putt out at the 18th you know you have played one of the best courses you will ever tee it up on.

To read the rest of the review and see a video of the course [click here](#)

### TIPS TO WIN

It's Saturday night and **Jon Rahm 7/1 – with 10Bet** – has just shot a two under 69 at the Scottish Open and has lost his 36-hole lead, but whether he comes back strongly tomorrow or not I think Jon is the man to beat this week, his life is in a great place at the moment and back-to-back Major Championship wins will just be the cherry on the top.

Someone who has consistently performed at Major Championships but is still waiting to get one over the line is **Xander Schauffele 20/1 – BetWay** – and I think The Open Championship may just be the Major that he wins first. The Open always throws a curve ball into the mix on the final day and with Xander's ability to stay in the mix right to the end that curve ball just may go his way.

Right: Will players feel joy or sheer relief when they reach the 18th hole?

Someone who comes into this Open Championship slightly under the radar is **Jordan Spieth 20/1 – WilliamHill** – after starting the year with a missed cut Jordan has gone on to win and notch up a runner-up and four other Top 5 finishes. Who can forget his Open Championship win at Royal Birkdale and that drop onto the practice ground and with a Seve like short game, his second claret jug isn't that far away.

### EACH-WAY TIPS

I was quite surprised to find **Tommy Fleetwood 40/1 – MansionBet** – this far down the betting odds and that can only be good news for punters, Tommy currently sits inside the Top 20 at the Scottish Open having shot all three rounds under par and opened up with a 66. Fleetwood hasn't really set the world alight this year on both the European and PGA Tours, but a solid Top 20 at the Irish Open and his current form at the Scottish Open, I feel he is trending in the right direction.

Probably not the weather forecast **Shane Lowry 40/1 – with SpreadEx** – was hoping for at Sandwich this week, with all four days predicted to be sunny with not much wind, unlike when Shane won at Royal Portrush. It maybe two years ago but Lowry is the defending champion this week and will want to put up a solid defence and with three Top 10s from his last five starts on the

PGA Tour and a final round 66 at the Irish Open for a Top 25 finish, his game is in a good place at the moment and he won't want to give up that claret jug without a fight.

### OUTSIDE TIP

The lowest Open Championship score of 62 is held by **Branden Grace 70/1 – with SportNation** – which he shot at the 2017 Open Championship at Royal Birkdale and his low ball flight certainly favours links golf and although the wind is not due to pick up on the forecasts at the moment, those of us who play links golf regularly will know that can change very rapidly. Branden won his second PGA Tour event earlier this year and I think these are great odds for the South African.

### LONGER ODDS

Try **Lucas Herbert 150/1 – with 10Bet**

We would like to emphasise that betting should be for fun and not a way to make a living. We see it as a way of adding excitement to a tournament while you watch and hopefully this guide will help you make an informed choice.

As always good luck and have fun!



Jason Livy

## LATEST FIRST ROUND BETTING ODDS FOR THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Jon Rahm 13/2  
Rory McIlroy 12/1  
Brooks Koepka 14/1  
Dustin Johnson 16/1  
Xander Schauffele 18/1  
Jordan Spieth 20/1  
Justin Thomas 20/1  
Bryson Dechambeau 25/1  
Louis Oosthuizen 28/1  
Collin Morikawa 28/1  
Viktor Hovland 28/1  
Patrick Cantlay 30/1  
Patrick Reed 33/1  
Paul Casey 33/1  
Tyrrell Hatton 33/1  
Tommy Fleetwood 33/1  
Lee Westwood 35/1  
Hideki Matsuyama 40/1  
Daniel Berger 40/1  
Tony Finau 40/1  
Shane Lowry 40/1  
Matthew Fitzpatrick 45/1  
Scottie Scheffler 45/1  
Justin Rose 50/1  
Cameron Smith 55/1  
Joaquin Niemann 55/1  
Robert MacIntyre 60/1  
Webb Simpson 60/1  
Will Zalatoris 60/1  
Adam Scott 66/1  
Marc Leishman 66/1  
Rickie Fowler 66/1  
Branden Grace 66/1  
Sergio Garcia 66/1  
Garrick Higgo 66/1  
Christiaan Bezuidenhout 70/1  
Harris English 70/1  
Abraham Ancer 70/1  
Jason Day 80/1  
Phil Mickelson 80/1  
Jason Kokrak 90/1  
Ian Poulter 90/1  
Alex Noren 90/1  
Martin Kaymer 100/1  
Matt Wallace 100/1  
Brian Harman 100/1  
Corey Connors 100/1  
Francesco Molinari 100/1

[More](#)



# IMPRESSIONS FROM JAPAN



Left: Golden Pavilion,  
Kinkajui-Ji Temple, Kyoto  
Below: Torii gates at  
Fushimi Inari Taisha  
shrine, Kyoto



Left: Maiko  
dancer, Gion  
Hatanaka  
ryokan,  
Kyoto, Kyoto  
Prefecture,  
Japan



Left: Entrance  
of Yagyū no Shō  
ryōkan hotel,  
Shuzenji, Izu  
Peninsula, Shizuoka  
Prefecture  
Right: Bell tower at  
Enryaku-ji Temple,  
Mount Hiei



Right: Bridge  
over river near  
Shuzenji town, Izu  
Peninsula, Shizuoka  
Prefecture  
Far right: Ise Grand  
Shrine, Ise, Mie  
Prefecture





Below: Lobsters on the menu at Ama pearl divers' seafood lunch in traditional Ama hut, Toba, Mie Prefecture  
Right: Kimono-clad tourists at Fushimi Inari Taisha shrine, Kyoto



# IMPRESSIONS FROM JAPAN

Above: Ama pearl divers cooking lunch in traditional Ama hut, Toba, Mie Prefecture  
Right: Koi carp pond at Ise Grand Shrine, Ise, Mie Prefecture

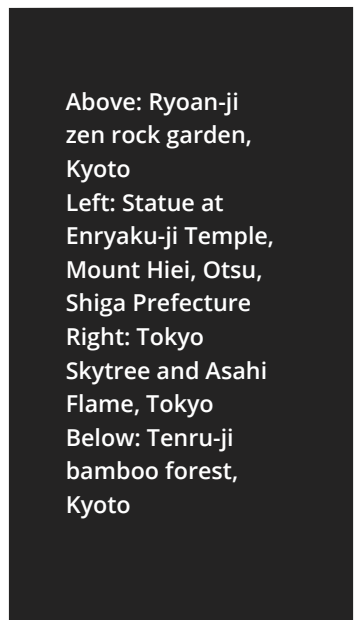
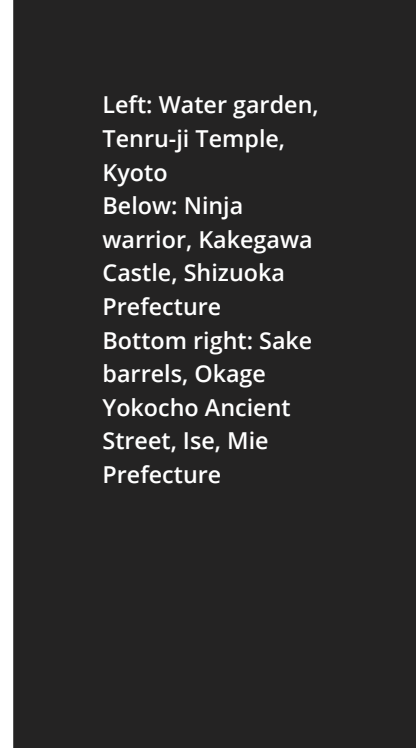


Above: Sake barrels, Ise Grand Shrine, Ise, Mie Prefecture



Left: Fushimi Inari Taisha shrine, Kyoto





Above: Ryoan-ji zen rock garden, Kyoto  
 Left: Statue at Enryaku-ji Temple, Mount Hiei, Otsu, Shiga Prefecture  
 Right: Tokyo Skytree and Asahi Flame, Tokyo  
 Below: Tenru-ji bamboo forest, Kyoto

Left: Water garden, Tenru-ji Temple, Kyoto  
 Below: Ninja warrior, Kakegawa Castle, Shizuoka Prefecture  
 Bottom right: Sake barrels, Okage Yokocho Ancient Street, Ise, Mie Prefecture

# IMPRESSIONS FROM JAPAN

See more of Peter Ellegard's work on Instagram  
 @peterellegard or peterellegard.co.uk







# HIDE AND PEAK

At 3,776m high you would think catching a glimpse of Mt Fuji shouldn't be all that hard, but Peter Ellegard finds himself in a private game of hide and seek with the majestic mountain



A Japan newbie, I fly into Tokyo for a 24-hour whistle-stop tour of the bustling capital, followed by an exploration of several other areas of the country's main island, Honshu.

In Tokyo, I take in sights including the Imperial Palace, historic Sensoji Temple, the colourful Tsukiji Outer Market, all but bumping into sumo wrestlers browsing the food stalls, and take a rickshaw to the soaring Tokyo Skytree, the world's tallest free-standing tower, where I gaze out over Japan's capital from one of its two observation decks. My guide informs me that on a clear day you can see Mt Fuji, under 75 miles away. It isn't clear – a theme that is to continue.

Getting around the city by train and subway is easy. And after my night in Tokyo I catch a Shikansen bullet train for the two-hour journey to Shizuoka Prefecture, home of the iconic conical mountain. I am taken to the Mishima Sky Walk, a pedestrian bridge with amazing views of Mt Fuji but all I see is a wall of grey clouds as the rain lashes down.

**A BRIEF ENCOUNTER**

At the foot of Fuji, my room at the Mars Greenwood Hotel in Gotemba City looks directly out to it but again it remains mostly hidden from sight, revealing only tantalising glimpses. After an amazing dinner cooked right in front of me in the hotel restaurant, I make a wish as my head hits the pillow. It is partially answered when I wake up and can see a little more of the volcano's slopes. But it isn't until →



Above: Imperial  
Palace, Tokyo  
Far left: Mt Fuji  
reveals its slopes at  
sunset  
Left: Sensoji  
Temple pagoda,  
Tokyo

All photos except  
previous page  
© Peter Ellegard



I get to Fuji Country Club for a round of golf that I finally see the revered mountain in all its glory...for all of a few minutes. By the time I tee off the clouds have covered the peak once more, only offering sneak peeks after that.

I forget the rule to take off your shoes before you step onto the raised floors of buildings including shrines and temples, as well as some traditional restaurants and hotels when I stay at the lovely old Yagyu No Sho ryokan hotel on the Izu Peninsula.

My personal attendant gently scolds, pointing at her own shoe-less feet and saying: “This is how we do it in Japan.” She repeats it when I change into a yukata, a type of kimono, and manspread on a low chair while she prepares the table for my dinner, which she cooks in the room before moving that to lay out my futon mattress, bringing pyjama trousers for me to wear underneath and spare her blushes.

The hotel is in the hot springs town of Shuzenji and has its own outdoor onsen (hot spring), perfect for soaking in at night amidst the lantern-lit trees. I explore the town, visiting its rain-soaked temple and strolling through a bamboo forest.

**SHOGUNS AND CASTLES**

Getting a ferry back to the mainland, Mt Fuji should be in full view but is again obscured. After a cable car ride to Shizuoka’s Kunozan Toshogu shrine, dedicated to Tokugawa Ieyasu, who united Japan over 400 years ago and is acclaimed as Japan’s greatest shogun, I am guided around by a Shinto priest who is also a qualified helicopter and aircraft pilot!

At towering Kakegawa Castle I am confronted by a fearsome sword-wielding ninja dressed in black, who turns out to be the guide for my visit. He details the history of the wooden castle and explains the role of ninjas, who were used as spies and assassins by their samurai employers.

Later, in Shiga Prefecture, I join a tour group visiting a preserved ninja village at Koka, dressing up in ninja robes and trying to hit targets with deadly shuriken throwing stars.

As Typhoon Trami approaches, I watch a traditional pearl-diving demonstration by Ama women divers at Mikimoto Pearl Island in Mie Prefecture before enjoying a seafood lunch cooked by some of the veteran divers in a wooden hut. That is followed by a traditional Japanese banquet at the Toba Seaside Hotel →

“THE HOTEL IS IN THE  
HOT SPRINGS TOWN OF  
SHUZENJI AND HAS ITS  
OWN OUTDOOR ONSEN  
PERFECT FOR SOAKING  
IN AT NIGHT AMIDST THE  
LANTERN-LIT TREES”



Top left: Tatami mat-covered room in Yagyu no Sho riyokan hotel, Shuzenji  
Middle left: Peter Ellegard in yukata with waitresses at Toba Seaside Hotel  
Left: Yagyu no Sho hotel entrance  
Above: Peter Ellegard and ninja guide at Kakegawa Castle





Left: Golden Pavilion, Kinkajui-Ji Temple, Kyoto

**“I LOSE MYSELF IN THE INCREDIBLE HISTORY AND BEAUTY OF PLACES SUCH AS THE FUSHIMI INARI TAISHA SHRINE, DEDICATED TO THE SHINTO GOD OF RICE AND SAKE WITH ITS FAMOUS PATHWAY OF BRIGHT RED TORII GATES”**

washed down by plenty of sake, spending the night safely locked inside as the violent storm rages overhead.

After attending a golf tourism convention at Shima Kanko Hotel, where the G7 leaders met in 2016, culminating in a finale featuring traditional Mie dancers and music, I visit Japan’s most important Shinto shrine, Ise Grand Shrine, and wander the streets of the adjacent old town.

On an evening dinner cruise on Lake Biwa, Japan’s largest freshwater lake, I try playing a Japanese flute made from reeds that grow in the lake. In Shiga’s capital Otsu, I watch a giant three-wheeled hikayama wooden float being assembled for the annual Otsu Festival the next day, I try making traditional Japanese sweets at the Kano Shojuan Sunai no Sato confectionary centre and feast on a dinner of Omi beef – the oldest of Japan’s famous marbled wagyu beef brands.

The ancient Enryaku-ji Buddhist monastery on Mount Hiei overlooks former Japanese capital Kyoto and I explore the sprawling

complex before spending my final two nights in the city.

Kyoto is famed for its abundance of temples, shrines, palaces, old wooden houses and enduring formal traditions. I lose myself in the incredible history and beauty of places such as the Fushimi Inari Taisha shrine, dedicated to the Shinto god of rice and sake with its famous pathway of bright red torii gates, the Tenru-ji Temple’s bamboo forest and calming zen rock garden and water garden, and the Kinkaju-ji Temple’s stunning Golden Pavilion.

However, the highlight is a dinner in a riyokan in the historic Gion district watching a graceful dance performance by a Maiko girl (an apprentice Geisha, known as Geiko in Kyoto) dressed in a colourful kimono with her face painted white.

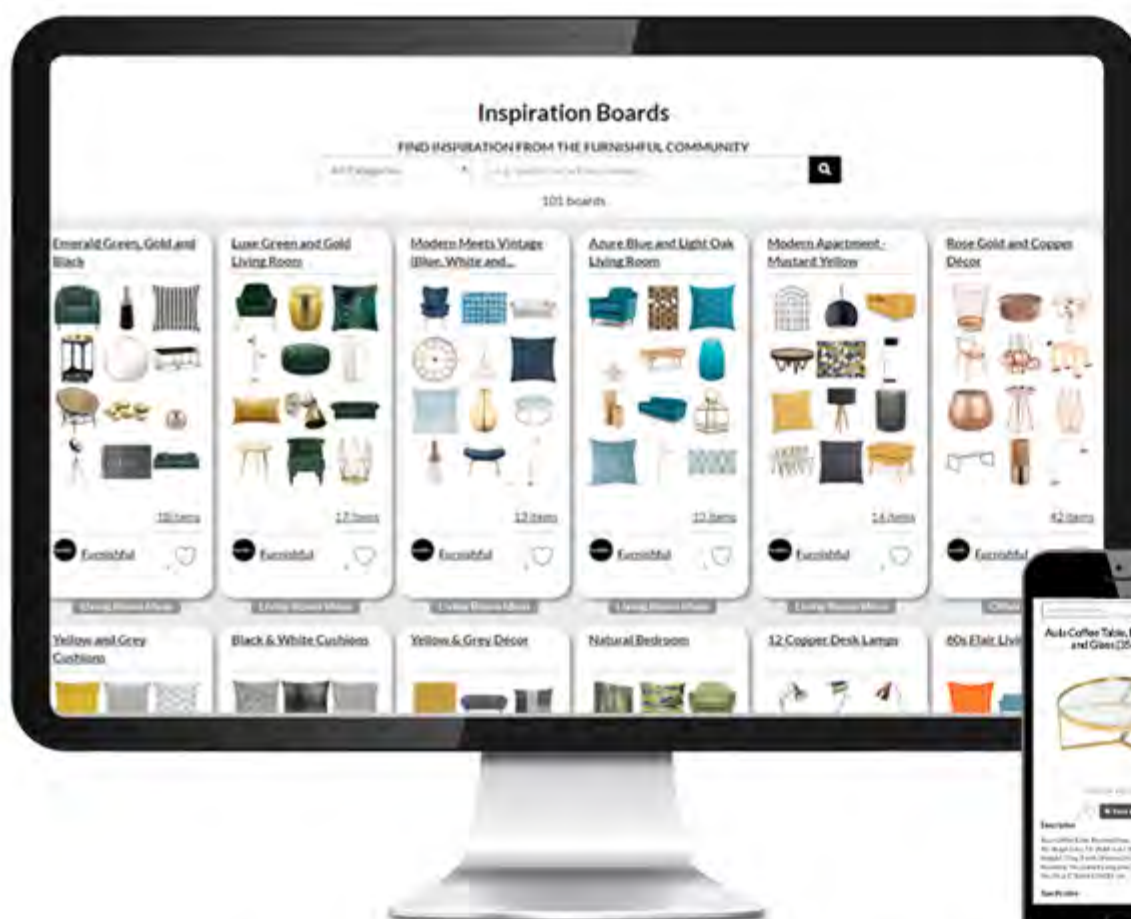
As with everything and everywhere I encounter in Japan, it far exceeds my expectations and leaves me wanting to return to experience even more of this intoxicating country.





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# OF BEAUTY RICH AND RARE

Jane Finn heads to Australia and discovers the rich and rare wonders of Queensland





Australia is an island, a country and a continent. The perfect destination for the young and the young at heart. A place as diverse as the topography, the people, the plants and wildlife that inhabit it. I loved sophisticated Sydney and pretty Adelaide, driving the Great Ocean Road, navigating the Snowy River Mountain Pass, and sampling world-class wines in the Mudgee, Barossa and Hunter Valleys, but it was Queensland that captured my heart.

Described as both the Sunshine State and the Northern Hinterland, these contrasting and differing perspectives dance together to weave the kind of magic that causes you to spread your wings and take on bold new challenges. I find myself embracing the philosophy, ‘the more you do, the more you can do!’ to ensure I remain an intrepid traveller – at home and abroad.

Crossing over the border from New South Wales into Queensland, we head north along the Gold Coast to Surfers’ Paradise, Australia’s equivalent of Miami but with a much more laidback vibe. The two-kilometre stretch of golden sand and rolling surf is lined with skyscrapers and condos that dominate the horizon, but it is at sea level where all the action takes place.

We stroll the beach, perfecting our tans, entertained by the surfers riding the waves, dogs commandeering skateboards and a myriad

of people soaking up the rays or cavorting in the warm waters. As night falls, we set out to explore the nightlife that defines Surfers.

Our first port of call is Jupiter’s, Queensland’s first casino and I am learning how to play ‘two-up,’ a raucous game that has everyone on their feet, cheering each other to victory. I recoup my losses from Adelaide and ask a local where they would go for dinner, and we find ourselves heading to Citrique for Moreton Bay bugs – a regional specialty. I admit that the name does not sound appealing. Had it not been for his passionate recommendation, I would have bypassed these tiny crustaceans on the menu and missed out on a true epicurean delight. Poached, steamed, barbecued or grilled, they are delectable – another lesson in not being afraid to try something new.

It’s our second night on the Gold Coast and we have been directed to a tiny BYOB café where we while away the time playing backgammon and tapping our toes to a live band. But Aussies are an outgoing lot, and it isn’t long before a group at a neighbouring table tease us about our accents, and we find ourselves ordering ‘shouts’ and seeing Surfers Paradise through new eyes.

Relaxed and rejuvenated, I am reluctant to leave this ‘upmarket’ seaside retreat. Still, as I watch the towers recede in the rear-view mirror, the open road beckons and I give →



8ags5999



daisy.images

Top: Entrance to Surfers Paradise. Left: Moreton Bay bugs. Below: Gold Coast with its white sandy beach and high rise buildings

“Had it not been for his passionate recommendation, I would have bypassed these tiny crustaceans on the menu and missed out on a true epicurean delight. Poached, steamed, barbecued or grilled, they are delectable”



Jason



myself up to the joy of discovering what still lays ahead.

**NOOSA NATIONAL PARK**

Every day is a G'Day when you are open to new possibilities. Noosa Head is not on the itinerary, but I have heard so much about the Coastal Walk. Designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2007, Noosa is a shining example of how a community can live in harmony with nature, managing the land, the water and the wildlife while meeting the needs of an urban population.

As I make my way to the start of the ocean walk, I take in the heady scent of eucalyptus, and sense the notable balance between people and place. However, my delight soon turns to disappointment when I realise I have not timed my visit well. You see, in Queensland, night descends quickly. Most days, it is dark by 6:30. It is now past 4 o'clock, and the 5.4 kilometre coastal walk takes at least four hours to complete.

I am about to call it a day when I am hailed by an interpretative guide named Trevor, who quickly persuades me to change my mind about moving on. He describes the craggy ancient volcanic cliffs, how the waves thunder against the beaches and the feeling of peace and contentment he finds every time he walks the trail, I know this is one experience I cannot miss.

'Think Outside' is the tag line for Queensland's National Parks, and today Trevor slowly guides me into that philosophy. On the spur of the moment, I decide to stay the night and easily find accommodation at a nearby caravan park. Bright and early the following day, I am taking in the sweeping views of Alexandria Bay at Hell's Gate, breakfasting at Boiling Pot and treated to a pod of dolphins frolicking far below at Dolphin's Point. As I make my way back to the carpark, Trevor appears out of nowhere and motions me to follow him. I stick close as he navigates through a dense patch of bush, when he stops and silently points to the top of a tree. It is notoriously difficult to spot a koala in the wild, but there is a mother and her joey on a branch, far above. If there was any doubt that I had made the wrong decision in tarrying behind, it was gone in that moment when Mother →

“I am about to call it a day when I am hailed by an interpretative guide named Trevor, who quickly persuades me to change my mind about moving on”



Bernard Spragg



Tatters



Nicholas Kaeser

Top: Sunrise over the Noosa River  
Far left: Alexandria Bay at Hell's Gate  
Left: Wild koala



Nature took over my heart.

SAILING THE WHITSUNDAY ISLANDS

When you are on vacation, you curse the weather if it is anything other than sunshine and blue skies, but it turned out to be fortuitous in our case. After three days of torrential rain, our cosy cabin in Airlie Beach feels confining, so we venture out to the communal BBQ, where we meet up with another couple also seeking respite from ‘the wet’. As luck would have it, they have just signed up with Rent-a-Yacht for a bareboat charter and are looking for crew. After making dinner together and sharing a bottle of 4 Acres Shiraz that we had scored at Tyrrell’s in the Hunter Valley, we decide that we are a good match. Two days later, we join them in Shute Harbour to explore the Whitsunday Islands aboard the Island Trader, which will take us to several inhabited and uninhabited islands – depending on the winds and the skill of the captain and his crew.

Day one and we anchor in Butterfly Bay, where I wake up to a calm sea as flat as a sheet of glass. Months later, I still marvel at the incredible shades of blue that are constantly changing to reflect the intensity of the sunlight, a passing cloud, a tidal current, a reef or gusting winds. The water is incredibly warm, and as I slip silently off the stern so as not to wake the others, my heart skips a beat when a giant sea turtle joins me. According to Aboriginal legend, Turtle has two energies, earth and water, to create a harmonious flow. She is a reminder not to push so fast that you miss the beauty of the moment – a promising start to our five-day epic sailing adventure.

We quickly gel as a team. I feel the need for speed, and happily, our captain concurs. Today we are blessed with 20 to 25-knot winds that allow us to make a long run to Whitehaven Beach, an uninhabited stretch of magnificent white silica sand that positively gleams in the fading light at sunset. We explore posh Hamilton Island and with sundowners in hand we observe the rich and famous from our vantage point on our deck. We swim, we snorkel and tunnel behind the boat so much so that I am salt-kissed as well as sun-kissed. On our last night, we make our way to Lindeman Island, where we dress up for the first time in →



Dany13



Sydneydawg2006



Jill Lenoble



Matt Gillman

Top: View of Whitehaven from the Southern Hill  
Top left: Coral at Butterfly Bay  
Bottom left: Sea Turtle at Butterfly Bay. Left: Hamilton Island





Kyle Taylor



Bernhard Huber



Richard Till

Far left: Mossman Gorge. Top left: Great barrier reef coral. Bottom far left: The path to hidden waterfalls at Mossman Gorge Left: Cairns where Daintree Rainforest meets the Great Barrier Reef

“Nothing is more freeing or thrilling than heeling, keeling, or close haul skimming across the water and anchoring at a new destination, every night”

days and dance the night away.

If you have never sailed before, take my word for it — nothing is more freeing or thrilling than heeling, keeling, or close haul skimming across the water and anchoring at a new destination, every night. As we head back to port, I ponder how much I have learned not just about sailing but about life from a patient captain who took a risk and literally ‘showed us the ropes’. Though it is hard to say goodbye to our newfound friends, I am sure our paths will cross again.

## WHERE THE RAINFOREST AND REEF MEET

After driving through what seems to be endless cane fields, we have finally reached Port Douglas, ready to explore the only place on the planet where two World Heritage sites meet – the Daintree Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef.

There is no doubt that we are in the tropics.

The vegetation is lush, and wildlife abounds – lorikeets by the hundreds, bats the size of eagles, huge frogs that grow as large as cats and unfortunately, armies of ants accompanied by swarms of mozzies. It is hot and humid. Beads of sweat form on my brow, and rivulets run down my neck as we drive to Mossman Gorge, a section of the rainforest that is said to be more than one hundred and thirty-five million years old.

Within 100 metres of entering the trail, we get a reprieve from the heat under a dense canopy of leaves that quickly blocks the sky and filters out the blazing sun. Suddenly it is cool and quiet, very primordial. We wade through crystal-clear springs and use a suspension bridge to cross the gorge but taking an overgrown track to Wurumba Creek yields the best surprise. Imagine following a path that seems to lead to nowhere and discovering a series of waterfalls and drop-pools that would serve as a natural spa and our own private

oasis. We scramble over the moss-covered rocks and submerge ourselves in the frothing waters as giant butterflies sporting every colour of the rainbow flit overhead. I have found my pot of gold. If the Irish brought leprechauns to OZ, I am sure they dwell here.

Our time in Australia is drawing to a close, but one last realm beckons, and we soon find ourselves on the docks at Marlin Marina, ready to board the Rum Runner for a two-day/one-night sojourn to the Great Barrier Reef.

The skies are clear, but the wind is up, and the sea is choppy. When the waves begin to crest at six metres, a few in our group, including my husband, succumb to seasickness, but personally, I find it exhilarating.

As we approach the edge of the reef, I am mesmerised by the never-ending kaleidoscope of blue and green water that stretches for miles. I swear I can hear the siren call of mermaids as we lay anchor and prepare to dive. Today, the visibility is exceptional. As we make our

descent, I am amazed at the stunning coral formations and dazzling array of bi-coloured angelfish, coral trout, and giant wrasse surrounding us. Had I not known it was taboo not to continually breathe when diving, my first glimpse of the fairytale landscape that lay beneath the waves would have taken my breath away.

## HOMeward BOUND

Tomorrow we return to Cairns before embarking on a series of flights that will take us home. Our bags are packed and waiting by the door but I need one more night under the stars before returning to the big city lights.

As I stroll the length of Four Mile Beach in splendid isolation, I suddenly feel complete. I look behind and see my footprints disappearing as the tide rolls in, but instead of feeling sad at leaving, I’m look forward with gratitude to what is still to come.

## JOURNEY PLANNER

### WHERE TO STAY

#### Noosa Caravan Park

T: +61 (07) 5449 8060

W: [nossacaravanpark.com.au](http://nossacaravanpark.com.au)

#### The Mango Tree

T: 0 11 61 (7) 4099 5677 (International)

W: [mango-tree-port-douglas.com](http://mango-tree-port-douglas.com)

#### The Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort

T: + 617 4099 5888

W: [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

### THINGS TO DO

#### Noosa Biosphere Foundation

T: +61 (07) 5474 0932

W: [nossabiosphere.org.au](http://nossabiosphere.org.au)

#### Whitsunday Rent-A-Yacht

T: 1-800-075 000 / +61 (7) 4946 9232

W: [rentayacht.com.au](http://rentayacht.com.au)

#### Rum Runner Cairns

T: +61 429 638 744

E: [info@rumrunnercairns.com.au](mailto:info@rumrunnercairns.com.au)

W: [rumrunnercairns.com.au](http://rumrunnercairns.com.au)

### WHERE TO EAT

#### The Avenue

T: +61 (07) 5592 1678

W: [theavenuesurfers.com](http://theavenuesurfers.com)

#### Citrique Restaurant

T: +61 (7) 5592 9772

W: [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

#### The Nautilus Restaurant

T: +61 (07) 4099 5330

W: [nautilus-restaurant.com.au](http://nautilus-restaurant.com.au)





# SAMSONITE MAN

After the success of her 13 sustainable essential items for women, Iesha Hinds from Fashion Digest London turns her focus to the 13 essential items for men and once again puts sustainability at the forefront of her must-haves for your next trip



Investigative journalism and increasing transparency from firms have been key contributing factors to the growing trend of consumers demanding more from brands in the name of corporate social responsibility and ethics. The luxury fashion industry has experienced a huge shift in the last decade, moving from a world where the creative directors and fashion elite dictated the trends, to a place where analytics and consumer behaviour are heavily influencing the

designs of today. This can be seen through the reliance on commercial pieces, accessories and perfume to make much needed sales targets. The shifting power dynamic between the consumers and designers means that brands have to cater to the whims of potential buyers because the voice of consumers has more weight today than ever before giving a whole new meaning to the phrase “the customer is always right”.  
**McKinsey & Company December 14, 2020**

Conflicting interests (for the most part) of pleasing shareholders by making the bottom line the focal point and providing a guilt-free consumer experience which is in high demand according to Google Trends data, has naturally given rise to some underhanded practices such as ‘greenwashing’ - this is the disinformation disseminated by an organisation so as to present

an environmentally-responsible public image. Greenwashing just makes the road to curating a truly sustainable and conscious wardrobe that much harder to navigate. To address these challenges, I have not only suggested some tools that could prove useful in helping you along your way but I’ve also listed my top 13 Menswear essential items for Spring/Summer 2021.

YOUR TOOLS

**1) Good On You (app & website) [Link here](#)**  
The first tool is Good On You, which is a directory for thousands of companies that have been critically assessed against their performance on environmental impact, labour rights and animal welfare. These three performance indicators are measured on a scale of 1-5 (similar to a Likert Scale) and then the company as a whole is given a rating based on the results. Good On You’s aim is to make it easy to buy products from

brands that are socially and environmentally sound, giving the consumer peace of mind while simultaneously putting pressure on other brands to make the necessary improvements. They are available online or via the app. Whilst I suggest menswear brands and pieces to consider this is a great way to delve deeper and discover some brands that may be more suited to your tastes and lifestyle.  
**2) Avoid (web-plugin) [Link here](#)**

This is an amazing tool for online shopping as it automatically removes items that are suspected to have been produced through child labour. No need to research each brand; simply install the plugin to Safari or Google Chrome and shop exclusively from the items that have zero associations with the factories that have been discovered to have used unethical child labour. Macy’s, ASOS and Amazon are just some of the companies people have found the plugin works

well with.  
**3) Dollar Speak (app) [Link here](#)**  
The geo-political climate has peaked the interest of citizens across all generations as information and differing perspectives are shared more easily through various media channels (digital and traditional). I felt it was only right to mention this app, Dollar Speak which is aimed to empower the consumer and promote informed decision making. Dollar Speak includes a multitude of

brands across different industries and provides information on the institutions or individuals these brands have donated to including specifically who from the brand led the way for the donation(s) to be made and lastly the political affiliations the donations supported. →





# THE ESSENTIAL 13: MEN



**The jacket:**  
Comfortable and 100% cotton, this activewear jacket is designed in a way that it can be dressed up and down  
[Click here for Pangaia](#)



**The cable knit sweater:** It's a rarity for Stella McCartney to cover menswear and it's great that you can get a cable-knit staple from a leading sustainable brand  
[Click here for Stella McCartney](#)



**The crewneck sweatshirt:**  
Ethically made, organic cotton and relatively affordable, what more can we ask for from a sweatshirt?  
[Click here for Organic Basics](#)

**The trousers:** A well tailored unisex trouser in a neutral tone that is great for all seasons  
[Click here for Cold Laundry](#)



**The t-shirt:** A classic wardrobe filler that's affordable and is the same price or less than the high-street store equivalent. These were named the Best T-Shirt by GQ and The Wall Street Journal  
[Click here for KOTN](#)



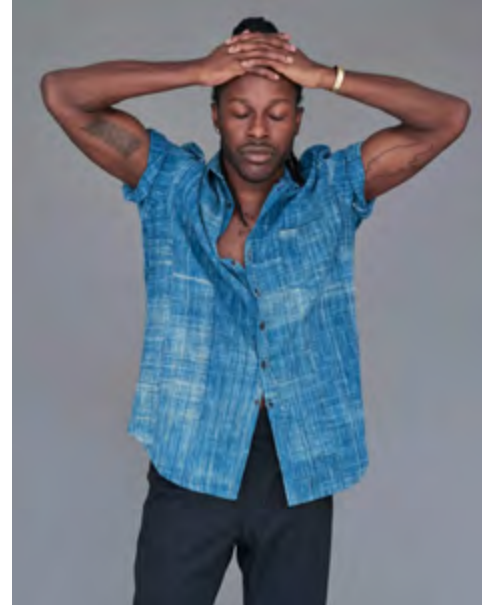
**The denim jean:**  
Post lockdown body friendly, these personalised and affordable jeans are the perfect option for anyone  
[Click here for Todd Shelton](#)







**The button down shirt:** Beautifully cut button down with metal buttons as an added extra  
[Click here for Rag & Bone](#)



**The short sleeve button down:** This is a handmade garment, making each piece truly unique. With every purchase you are supporting top skilful artisans based in West Africa  
[Click here for Studio 189](#)



**The duffle bag:** Gucci's sustainability initiative called Gucci Circular Lines came out with their first collection called Gucci Off The Grid and this is their answer to a weekend/ duffle bag  
[Click here for Gucci](#)



**The accessory:** Handmade unique pieces using quality precious metals and materials that are ethically sourced and recycled  
[Click here for All Blue](#)

**The Trouser Shorts:** The ultimate guilt-free garment that will help you get summer ready  
[Click here for Styland](#)



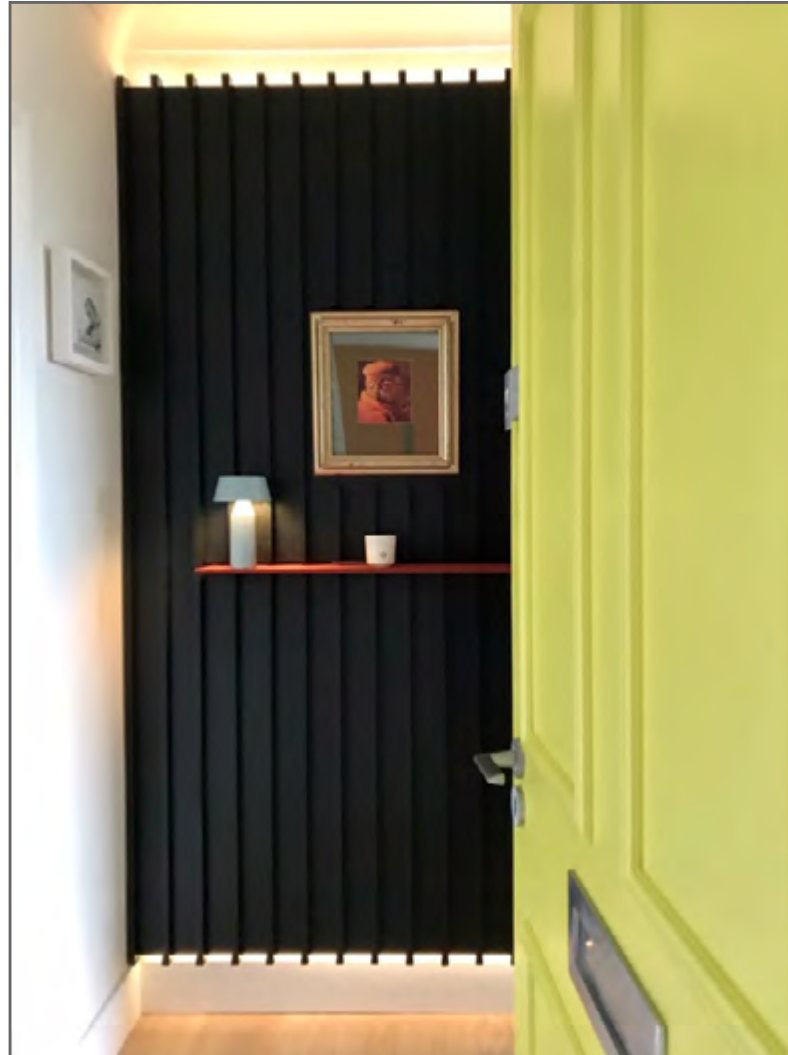
**The turtle neck:** Available in the primary colours this all time classic suits most for when it gets cooler  
[Click here for Kuyichi](#)



**The Chelsea boot:** A nice, reasonably priced Chelsea boot which suits most if not all and can be dressed up and down  
[Click here for Will's Vegan Store](#)







# JOHN WILSON DESIGN

Finest Bespoke Interiors

[info@johnwilson.design](mailto:info@johnwilson.design)

[www.johnwilson.design](http://www.johnwilson.design)

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# GOLF AMONG THE VINEYARDS

Charmaine Hibbert and James Mason sojourn to Alsace in France for the perfect combination of wine, food and golf



Vineyards at every  
turn and on every  
hill, welcome to  
Alsace



After being picked up at the airport we were whisked away to the Museum of the Automobile in Mulhouse. If you do get a chance between rounds of golf and wine tasting, then it is a place I would definitely recommend you visit. The Bugatti collection is something to behold and if you like car badges like the ones that adorn the front of cars like Rolls-Royce, Jaguar and Mercedes Benz then you will enjoy this type of automobile art. With

such illustrious names as Cartier on display, it was a real eye opener.

Anyone who likes a good bottle of wine with their lunch or evening meal will have come across the name Alsace. This region of France produces some of the best wines to come out of France, producing over 160 million bottles of wine a year. In my hired car and on the way to my hotel you couldn't help notice not only the beauty of the landscape but the amount

of vineyards you pass through; there are over 15,000 hectares of them in Alsace.

It looked like every household had turned their garden into their own personal vineyard and every slope or hill had been co-opted to become one of the many famous vineyards of the region. So my mind started to wonder how they were going to find any land to build golf courses on.

Below and middle:  
 Some cars on display at the Museum of the Automobile  
 Bottom: The town of Riquewihr is on the Alsace Wine Route

**"SO MY MIND STARTED TO WONDER HOW THEY WERE GOING TO FIND ANY LAND TO BUILD GOLF COURSES ON"**



Above: Looking down on the village of Katzenthal lever de soleil. Left: The fishmonger's district of Colmar. Right: Art installation on the outside of the Museum of the Automobile in Mulhouse





## ALSACE GOLF LINKS

W: [alsacegolflinks.com](http://alsacegolflinks.com)

I visited David Abercombie, Director of Golf at Alsace Golf Club. David is an Irishman who had worked for many years in Germany and was alerted that a local farmer in Alsace was selling off her cornfields to be developed into a golf course. That was nearly 40 years ago and David and his company designed what is now locally known as The Links of Alsace.

This 7,010 yard track from the black tees has four other tee options and lies a long way from the sea, but the sculpturing, dry running fairways in the summer months, bent grass greens and whispery grass framing the fairways and bunkers all give it that links look and feel. It's a very friendly members club, which also incorporates a driving range and three practice holes for beginners.

David explained the green card system they have in France. New golfers have to obtain this card before being allowed to play an 18-hole course. The test includes having lessons so new golfers obtain a certain standard of competence and also a good understanding of golf course etiquette. This became very noticeable as I played; I never had to wait on any tee, being called through on a number of occasions by a slower group, a truly refreshing experience to some I have had in England.

From the opening 357-yard par 4, 1st to the 548-yard par 5, 18th Alsace golf club is a very enjoyable track to play, very tough from the back tees and some great par 3s over water. Shot making is truly at a premium if you want to put a good score together. But Golf in this region of France is not all about great golf courses, but also great food and wine and back at the clubhouse you can help yourself to a beer while lunch and wine are being prepared for you. Don't forget to share some of your lunch with Caddie the club dog; I have never seen such a contented canine. →

**"DRY RUNNING FAIRWAYS IN THE SUMMER MONTHS, BENT GRASS GREENS AND WHISPERY GRASS FRAMING THE FAIRWAYS AND BUNKERS ALL GIVE IT THAT LINKS LOOK AND FEEL"**



Above: Sunset over the wonderful Alsace Golf Links layout. Left and below: Water hazards and whispery grasses are features of the course





## GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB LALARGUE

W: [lalargue-resort.com](http://lalargue-resort.com)

Golf & Country Club LaLargue lies just minutes from the Swiss border and has a very multicultural membership, according to Dominique Velten, Director of Golf, with both Swiss and German members adding to the healthy French membership.. You can see why when you walk out onto the veranda of this stunningly designed clubhouse which over looks both the 9th and 18th greens.

I would recommend you take advantage of a buggy, but to be fair to the many members I encountered on my way round most were walking. I was the one that looked rather lazy; my excuse was I wasn't used to walking in such a hot sun – that or looking forward to lunch with some more of the local produce! At 6,717 yards from the back tees this is a good test of golf and a beautifully designed track.

You can't help but think the two stand-out holes would be the 9th and 18th that come back to the clubhouse from their high elevated tees playing down to the valley, across a stream and back up to elevated greens. But the par 3 10th at 238 yards is a great hole played from a very elevated tee across water to the green some 100 feet below.

The par 4 11th at just 319 yards is another great hole that is through trees to an elevated green. I could list all 18 from the dogleg right opening hole, but lets just say it's a track that I really enjoyed playing and one I would love to go back and enjoy again.

Top left: Bridges crossing the streams that run through the course. Top Right Aerial view of the clubhouse, 9th and 18th greens. Right: The lush fairways of LaLargue



Robert Stantina

**“MY EXCUSE WAS I WASN'T USED TO WALKING IN SUCH A HOT SUN – THAT OR LOOKING FORWARD TO LUNCH WITH SOME MORE OF THE LOCAL PRODUCE!”**





## GOLF D'AMMERSCHWIHR

W: [golf-ammerschwih.com](http://golf-ammerschwih.com)

The final track of the three that I played was set among the rolling hills and vineyards of Ammerschwih in the heart of the Alsace region. You drive through so many vineyards to get to Golf d' Ammerschwih I was worried I would be polluting future bottles of wine!!!

Here is another clubhouse veranda where you can enjoy a meal while watching golfers come down the beautiful par 4 378-yard 9th hole with its undulating fairway and long tricky green. For a municipal track it's in great condition and if you can pull your eyes away from the beautiful scenery there are some spectacular golf holes to enjoy.

The par 5, 507-yard 3rd is a very tough hole with a blind tee shot to a sloping fairway, the much photographed 162-yard, par 3, 5th from its elevated tee across water. Make sure you get your choice of club right here. You will enjoy the run of holes from the 8th through to the 17th. This track is all about position from the tee.

Taking into account all the undulations and rolling fairways, apart from the tees I am not sure there's a flat lie on this track. If you love your food and wine as much as you enjoy a good game of golf at some very scenic golf courses, with empty fairways and where golf course etiquette still means something, then golf amongst the vineyards of Alsace should be your next destination.



Left: Water hazard at the 18th hole. Below left: Practice putting and chipping green. Below right: Aerial view of the clubhouse and the amazing topography the golf course is set in

**"IF YOU LOVE YOUR FOOD AND WINE AS MUCH AS YOU ENJOY A GOOD GAME OF GOLF AT SOME VERY SCENIC GOLF COURSES, WITH EMPTY FAIRWAYS AND WHERE GOLF COURSE ETIQUETTE STILL MEANS SOMETHING, THEN GOLF AMONGST THE VINEYARDS OF ALSACE SHOULD BE YOUR NEXT DESTINATION"**



## CHÂTEAU D'ISENBOURG

Alsace, France

By CHARMAINE HIBBERT



## ROOMS WITH A VIEW

With views of the Vosges foothills, the Rhine plain and the Black Forest off into the distance **Charmaine Hibbert** finds the perfect Château to relax and soak up those magnificent vistas

Alsace is located in the historic north-eastern region of France on the Rhine River plain and borders both Germany and Switzerland. It is a beautifully picturesque and charming place steeped in so much history. And for anyone who has read my reviews knows – apart from loving my spas of course – I am fascinated by history and architecture so when we bumped into a wonderful lady while out exploring the town I was blown away by the stories she told us.

If you have not visited Alsace I would advise you arrange a trip at some point in your life. It has alternated between German and French control over the centuries and it is these influences that give Alsace its character and charm.

After landing at the airport in Bale Mulhouse we are met by an enthusiastic taxi driver frantically waving a board with our names. At this point I can say I feel a tad special. After packing our luggage our driver transports us to Mulhouse to visit the Cité de l'Automobile. I know nothing about cars but I can appreciate their beauty. The Schlumpf collection is →

Left: The bar where you can sample wines from le Château d'Isenbourg own vineyard. Above: Breakfast on the terrace



one of the most prestigious car collections in the world – a collection of 437 cars belonging to 97 different brands. Admiring all those classic cars I think I’ve got a tad carried away by taking nearly 200 photos. Oops! It’s a good thing I bought a bigger memory card for this trip! If you are a lover of cars, in fact even if like me you have no real clue about cars, the Cité de l’Automobile is certainly worth a visit.

We are back in the car and being taken back to the airport to pick up our hire car. After a frustrating hour of trying to work the sat nav we have finally arrived at the gates of our hotel and this looks anything but your ordinary hotel. The chateau is just stunning, the entrance and the drive through the vineyard just takes your breath away.

Chateau D’Isenbourg is a magnificent sight to behold, circa 1800s and surrounded by vineyards. What I love about this charming hotel apart from the obvious architecture - the building is grand after all – is the fact that it is situated on the Alsatian wine trail and offers panoramic views of the Rhine Plain and the Black Forest. I could not have imagined for one minute that I would be looking at the Vosges foothills, the Rhine plain and the Black Forest off into the distance. I am lost for words and for anyone who knows me that’s quite some feat to keep me quiet.

The hotel boasts 41 rooms that fall under six different categories: the ‘Siegeberg Suite’, ‘Junior Suite’, ‘Deluxe’, ‘Superior’, ‘Traditional’ and ‘Standard’ room. I cannot speak for James but my room is amazing; traditional, spacious and elegantly decorated and I dive on my double bed as soon as the bellboy leaves the room! Walking to my window and seeing

that view again just soothes my soul. All rooms offer fantastic views of the garden, the park, the vineyard or the Alsatian Plain – so what more could you want for a hotel view?

Walking out onto the terrace for our evening meal I just didn’t expect the view to be so glorious from here. I literally just stop and stare. I think a nudge from James brings me back to the here and now. I have seen some views in my time but I must admit this has to be one of my favourites, especially while enjoying some amazing Alsatian cuisine. This is gastronomy at its best. I think it’s best I just let myself get lost in the stunning views, great food and of course great local wine.

## THROUGH THE VINEYARDS

Something I must not forget to mention is that the hotel produces its own wine - it doesn’t have a fantastic vineyard for nothing – so at dinner we just have to sample a bottle or two of the hotel’s own wine. I am quite fussy when it comes to wine I must admit. By no means am I a wine connoisseur; I just simply know what I like and don’t like, and these wines really do just dance on the taste buds. James is the wine expert between the two of us, so I trust his judgement and I’m so glad I did. If you take anything away from this review, please do sample the cuisine and locally produced wines. And please take time out to explore this small but gorgeous town.

We decided to take a drive through the countryside and just take in the sights before our tour of the vineyard at the Wine Cellar Bestheim in Westhalten, and looking out at the vast scenery it looks like every house

has their very own vineyard. It really is an amazing sight to see. It has got me really excited about our tour. I never thought for a minute I would have such a great time learning about how wine is produced. Usually, talk of how wine is produced goes over my head but I am shocked at how I am hanging on to Mr Beuchot’s every word. He is a charming man and is obviously passionate about wine and it gives me a new-found respect for the industry.

I would highly recommend during the summer time to take a ride on the Train Gourmand du Vignoble (TGV) from Eguisheim to Rouffach by the vineyards and enjoy that beautiful landscape. You can taste wines and visit the city of Guebreschwihr and the magnificent church of Notre-Dame (in Rouffach). On this trip we have a hire car so we will miss out on taking the TGV. We could do the trip by car but I don’t think it would be the same but it is definitely something I want to do when I come back. And with Christmas only a few months away you need to check out the Christmas market. It just looks like a magical atmosphere and after all Christmas is a magical time of year so what better time to visit this beautiful town and wonderful hotel.

**Chateau d’Isenbourg**  
**9-11 Rue de Pfaffenheim**  
**68250 Rouffach**  
**France**

**T: +33 3 89 78 58 50**  
**W: [grandesetapes.com](http://grandesetapes.com)**



Far left: Entrance and grounds to le Château  
Top: Some of the wonderful vistas from the Château grounds  
Middle left: Some of the spa facilities available. Left: This is a superior room, I loved the traditional feel and the air conditioning!



**33** COBRA RAD SPEED



**35** PING G425



**37** TAYLORMADE TP5



**40** ORIGINAL PENGUIN



**43** BOZILY RANGEFINDER



# VIEW

# EQUIPMENT & APPAREL

# REVIEW



# Farleigh

## Prostate Cancer Charity Day

PROCEEDS RAISED ON THE DAY WILL BE DONATED TO PROSTATE CANCER UK

Saturday 25th September

Team of 4 stableford (3,2,1)

Best 3 scores to count on all Par 3s

Best 2 scores to count on all Par 4s

Best 1 score to count on all Par 5s

Members £30

Members Guests/Vestis Tour Members £55

Visitors £65

TEA, COFFEE AND BACON ROLLS ON ARRIVAL

18 HOLES OF GOLF - TEE TIMES FROM 11AM, 2 TEE START  
(PURPLE COURSE)

RAFFLE

POST-GOLF BUFFET

TEAM AND ON-COURSE PRIZES



To book your place, email [enquiries@farleighfox.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@farleighfox.co.uk)  
or call 01883 627711



SUPPORTING  
**PROSTATE  
CANCER UK**



# NO SPEED LIMITS

With Cobra's R&D guys doing all they can to help Bryson DeChambeau to break Tour speeds limits, James Mason finds out if the RadSpeed will help you gain distance





## TECHNOLOGY

After the success of their Speed Zone drivers, Cobra golf announce their new RadSpeed driver line up and introduce a new radial weighting technology. This design concept originated from a formula in engineering called Radius of Gyration, which is basically the distance from the club's centre of gravity to each weight or technology location.

Cobra's engineers found that by increasing the Radius of Gyration and the distance between the front and back weights, they could create the optimum blend of ball speed, low spin, and forgiveness in one driver. Using this formula Cobra utilised the radial weighting system and strategically positioned them in each of their three new driver models, to help create three distinct performances.

Golfers of all abilities want to increase their distance from the tee, but from that point some of us want lower spin rates, forgiveness, consistency and also technology that will help us correct a ball flight, so Cobra have produced these three models

aimed at the different goals golfers are trying to achieve.

The RadSpeed is for golfers who have a faster swing speed who want to increase distance through faster ball speeds, low spin rates and trajectory.

The RadSpeed XB is for golfers who also want increased distance through faster ball speeds, but also want consistency across the club face for more forgiveness and stability.

The RadSpeed XD is for those golfers who again want to increase distance while reducing their slice or creating a draw.

"Our new RADSPED drivers represent a true breakthrough in performance," said Tom Olsavsky, Vice President of R&D, Cobra Golf. "Our engineers have outdone themselves by pushing the Radius of Gyration to new levels and delivering three distinct drivers aimed at three different types of golfers. With the RadSpeed driver family, Cobra can truly offer optimised performance for everyone from Tour players to weekend warriors and those who need help correcting a slice."



## VIDEO REVIEW

### Cobra RadSpeed

**SHAFT** Fujikura Motore X F1

**FLEX** Stiff

**RRP** £369 / €479 / \$599.99



## CONCLUSION

So did I gain extra distance using the RadSpeed driver? In a word, yes. I tee it up regularly with another lad at my club who plays off the same 5 handicap as me, but he generally out drives me by 5-10 yards. On the days I was testing the RadSpeed I was knocking it by him and on some holes a good 8-10 yards.

I was using the low spin, low launch Fujikura Motore X F1 shaft and its not one for the faint hearted, especially if you like a high ball flight. This baby come off the face low and like a bullet and nothing like my normal ball flight — although I do hit the ball low — but once I got used to it, I loved the feel and I found the sound was a lot deeper than I am used to at impact, but I felt that was another plus.

Yes, I would certainly recommend Cobra's RadSpeed. It looks great at address, I love the full deep sound at impact but most of all I loved the extra distance. Please make sure you get fitted, as you can see from my findings the shaft makes all the difference.





James Mason  
discovers if Ping's  
driver face technology  
can really be  
transferred to their  
new G425 irons



# FACE OFF



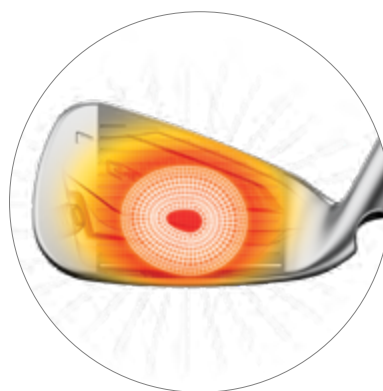
## TECHNOLOGY

The R&D guys at Ping have taken their driver variable face thickness technology and applied it to the new G425 irons using a Hyper 17-4 stainless steel face. This technique has greatly increased the flex of the face, while the patented cascading sole and top-rail undercut combine to work like a hinge, flexing to launch the ball faster and higher and with that higher launch angle you are able to stop the ball quicker when it hits the green.

While developing this technology for their irons, Ping have also been able to increase the clubs' MOI by 3% helping increase the clubs' forgiveness and at the same time making the iron a more compact shape from heel to toe. This has been achieved by redistributing weight to the toe and hosel and a tungsten toe screw which all helps to expand the perimeter weighting for tighter dispersion.

A new multi-material cavity badge covers more of the face to help dampen undesirable noise frequencies giving the G425s a solid noise and feel at impact. The design of the G425 irons is topped off with a water-repelling hydropearl chrome finish, with the grooves of the PW, UW, SW and LW having precision milling to increase control and touch around the green.

Arccos Caddie Smart Grips come standard with this set – see issue 17 for our review of the Arccos Caddie software.



## VIDEO REVIEW

**Ping G425**

**SHAFT** Ping AWT 2.0

**FLEX** Stiff

**RRP** £749 / €996 / \$1,099

“EVERY PLAYER WILL  
GAIN FROM THE TIGHTER  
DISPERSION AND  
FORGIVENESS THAT COMES  
WITH THE G425”

## CONCLUSION

It's been a while since I tested the Ping I20 G20 and soon as I put the G425 behind the ball the first thought that entered my mind was how can you not hit this well and when I did pull the trigger, the next thought was how I enjoyed the solid sound and feel at impact.

Ping have always been known for their game improvement irons and I would always recommend them to someone who is just feeling their way into the game, but that's not to say the G425 are just aimed at the beginner. Every player will gain from the tighter dispersion and forgiveness that comes with the G425 and the more compact head design as it sits behind the ball.

If you watch the playing clips in the video review, you will notice not just how nice the high ball flight is, but how the ball arrowed in on the pin and dropped out of the sky helping the ball to stop quickly and give me more control going into the green.



# High five



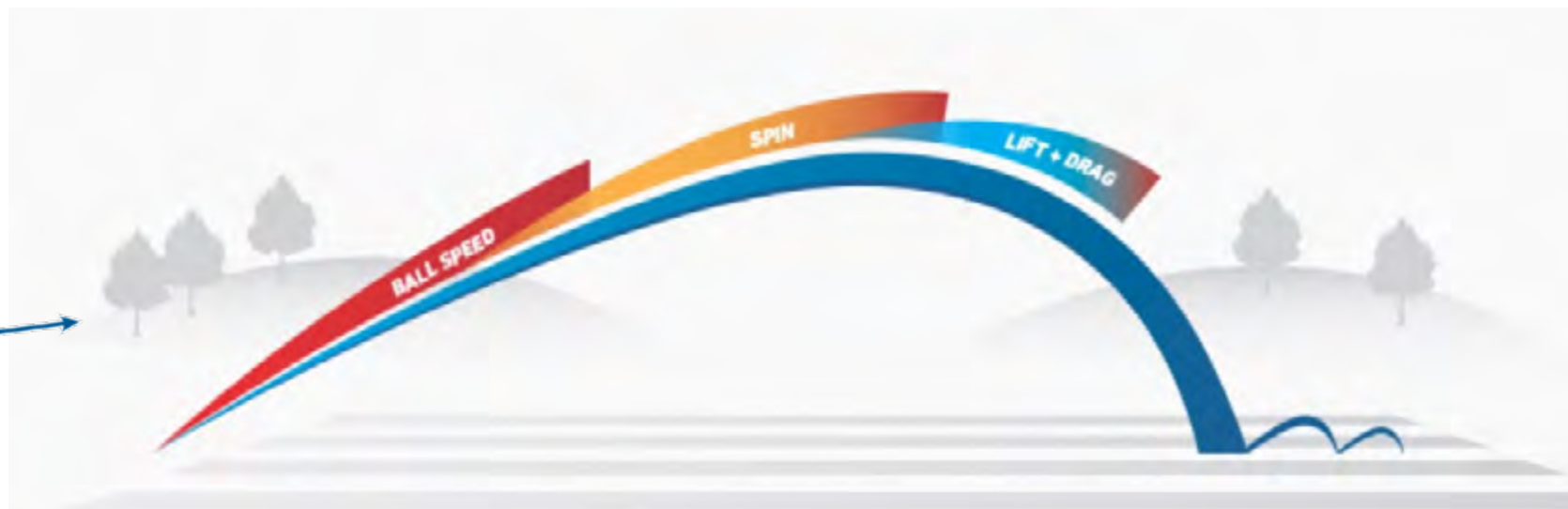
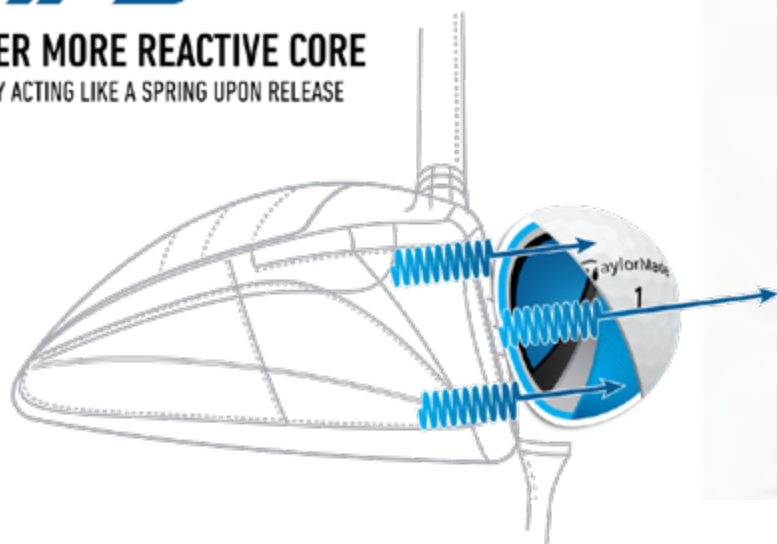
TaylorMade launch their 2021 TP5 golf ball, which has five layers working to give you more distance while maintaining feel – and with four rounds of competition golf in a week including the 36-hole Brice Bowl in Kent, James Mason puts the TP5 to the test



## TP5

### NEW LARGER MORE REACTIVE CORE

RETAINS ENERGY ACTING LIKE A SPRING UPON RELEASE



## TECHNOLOGY

TaylorMade have launched a new ball for 2021 which uses their most aerodynamic 322-dimple pattern that has been engineered to be shallower to help reduce drag, but has steeper walls to help trap air as the ball speed reduces and makes its decent. By doing this the dimple pattern maintains lift, keeping the ball airborne for longer.

The TP5 has a five-Layer construction and uses a reactive Tri-Fast Core to optimise carry while reducing drag, the dual spin urethane cover also giving the ball a soft feel. TaylorMade also use a Speed-Layer System that is composed of four increasingly stiff layers and works with the High-Flex Material (HFM) which acts like a tightly-wound spring that builds energy and rebounds quickly.

All five layers combined and working together helps generate more ball speed, more carry distance off the tee, more control in the wind, and more spin around the greens.

The difference between the TP5 and TP5X is the outer layer. While the two balls use the same four inner layer technology the TP5 uses a .040 soft cast urethane cover; this ball is for those who want more control around the green and more ball going into the grooves of your irons. The TP5X utilises a .020 cast urethane cover which is only slightly firmer, but this gives you more speed, a higher more powerful trajectory the pay off is you sacrifice a little bit of that extra spin hitting shots into the green.



**TAYLORMADE TP5**  
DOZEN GOLF BALLS  
RRP £49.99 / €58 / \$64.99  
LINK [Amazon link](#)

**TAYLORMADE TP5X**  
DOZEN GOLF BALLS  
RRP £49.99 / €58 / \$64.99  
LINK [Amazon link](#)

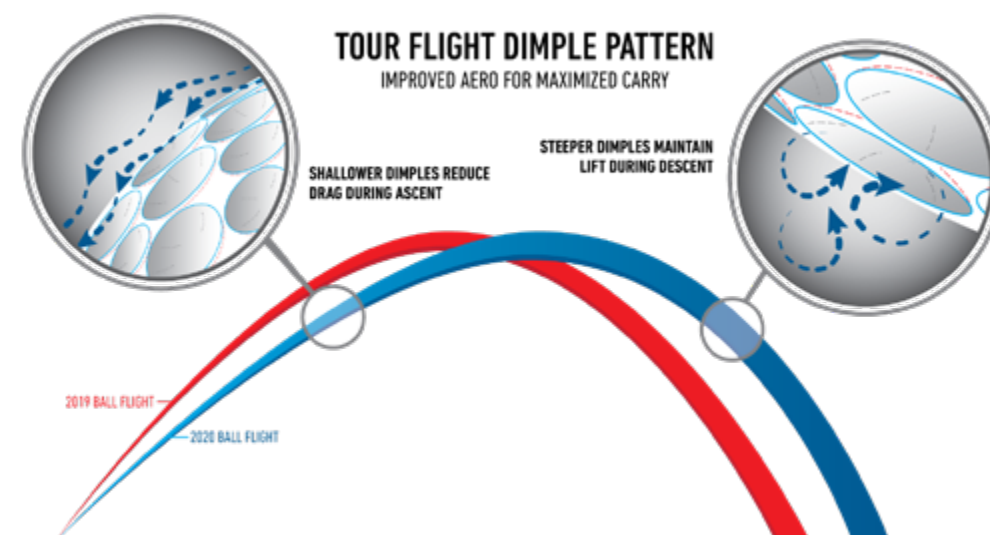
## CONCLUSION

Having played both the TP5 and the TP5x over the last few weeks in competition and friendly rounds, I found myself leaning more to the TP5 for the competition rounds, for the added control and grip around the greens, especially as the greens have become firmer with the hotter weather.

In friendly rounds I used the TP5x because the lad I play with every Monday and Tuesday generally out drives me and I wanted the extra distance that the TP5x had to offer and as you will read

in my Cobra RadSpeed review, with that combination I was able to out drive him.

You can see from my findings I didn't end up with a definitive option because I am looking for different outcomes from different rounds. You may want to stick with just the one ball but I've found the perfect combination for my competitive and non competitive games. What I would say is that the TP5s are worth putting to the test, then you will find the option that best suits your competitive and friendly rounds.







« THE ALL-NEW »  
**TP5 / TP5x**

**THERE'S ONE BALL  
THAT'S BETTER FOR ALL**



Introducing the new TP5/TP5x. With a new dimple pattern engineered for better performance off the tee, more control around the greens and more stability in the wind, the most complete ball in golf just got better. Join the movement.



BETTER STABILITY  
IN THE WIND ✓



LONG WITH THE DRIVER ✓

MORE CONTROL ON  
THE SHORT SHOTS ✓





# Pick up a Penguin

As discussed in Iesha's feature on page 19 of this issue, Google have seen a huge spike in sustainable clothing searches on its platform and by using 20-30 percent recyclable material in all their garments, Original Penguin are certainly doing their bit for sustainable fashion. James Mason dons the fairways to road test part of their 2021 spring/summer collection



**TWILL BUCKET HAT**  
RRP £24.99 €30 \$45

## TECHNOLOGY

I remember wearing Munsingwear when I first started to realise I needed to look good as well as play good and started to get into golf fashion. Back then you couldn't get me out of my adidas Rom trainers and having a penguin on my polo shirt.

I had never heard the story how Pete the penguin and how he came into being through a delayed flight, several alcoholic beverages and a severed head which was repaired with a tie by an airline stewardess. But icons like Arnold Palmer, Clint Eastwood, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bing Crosby and even the infamous Richard Nixon have worn the Munsingwear brand.

Now known as the Original Penguin the apparel company now use sustainable fabrics utilising a minimum of 20% and up to 30% recycled polyester and a double-knit high-gauge fabrication for performance and aesthetics.

And their 2021 spring/summer range uses a modern tailored fit featuring whimsical all-over prints, with a retro yet modern look and feel. The trousers are crafted from high-stretch fabrics to help enhance performance and comfort and for those who like to be loud and proud there are some refined plaid patterns just for you.





**HERITAGE BLOCKED POLO**  
RRP £55 \$78 €63



**HERRINGBONE PRINTED POLO**  
RRP £55 \$78 €63



**CASPER POLO**  
RRP £55 \$78 €63



**COCKTAIL CONVERSATION  
PRINT**  
RRP £100 \$140.99 €114.50



**BIRDSEYE V NECK SWEATER**  
RRP £100 \$140.99 €114.50



**MIXED MEDIA LAYERING**  
RRP £100 \$140.99 €114.50



**TRACK JACKET**  
RRP £55 \$78 €63



**PLAID GOLF PANT IN BLACK IRIS**  
RRP £75 \$105.99 €85.99



**ALL DAY EVERYDAY PANT**  
RRP £75 \$105.99 €85.99

## CONCLUSION

With climate change on most sensible peoples minds, knowing that you are helping the planet by purchasing apparel that is crafted from recyclable material does make you feel good – especially when you feel the quality of each of the garments.

As most of you know now I have young daughters who watch over my every fashion choice and they approved of each garment I pulled out of the box. But what they loved the most was the feel and how soft the fabrics were and that

continues right down to when you put your hands in the trouser pockets for the first time – to be honest I felt a bit guilty filling them with dirty tees, ball marker and pitch mark repair tool.

I also wore the blue trousers, grey polo and blue track top to a restaurant on a date and certainly got the thumbs up there as well. So if you are looking for apparel that looks good both on and off the course with quality feel to its material and does its bit for the planet, pick up a penguin or two.

Four polos, three tops, two trousers and a bucket hat that can all be mixed and matched for your summer golf wardrobe or hopefully that golf trip away



# BE AN ORIGINAL.



an original  
*Penguin*  
BY  
Munsingwear



CAMERON SMITH



# Eye on the prize

You pay for what you get and I do believe that, but we also know that some non-brands have the same contents as the main brands as they are produced by the same company. So could a non-branded rangefinder match for accuracy the top branded models? James Mason finds out when he puts the Bozily Golf VproX1 rangefinder to the test





## TECHNOLOGY

- High-definition camera
- 6X Magnification
- 7 degree field angle
- Distance range 5-1000 yds
- Class 1 905nm laser type
- 2 scan modes, General Golf mode/Slope mode
- LCD digital display
- Measurements in yards and metres

**Mode 1:** General/competition mode is designed for distance and continual scanning, so you can get a yardage/metre reading to any object, pin, bunkers, water hazards, trees etc

**Mode 2:** Gives you yardage/metre readings, slope reading and pin lock.



Far left: 6x magnification lenses  
Left: Adjustable viewfinder to adjust to your eyesight if you wear glasses and viewfinder screen display showing yardages and slope adjustment yardage



## CONCLUSION

I often see cheap golf technology adverts come up on social media and you wonder how good they really are, but then I was asked to test the Bozily Golf VproX1 rangefinder. The rangefinder arrived in a smart box and unlike some well-known models it not only included the battery but had two. The protective case was again what you would expect to see from a top branded model.

On the course the Bozily Golf VproX1 rangefinder continued to impress. Not only did it give me yards, but instead of the usual 70

yards, it was reading 70.7-yards and in Mode 2 the laser locks onto the pin. The viewfinder then gives you exact yardages to the pin and underneath the adjusted yardages to take into account the topography and slope of the land between your ball and the pin. So my readings were now showing 70.7, but the slope reading underneath would say 76.9 as it was taking into account the incline.

I also tested the Bozily Golf VproX1 in competition mode which is Mode 1. I could

still get yards to the pin in say 164.7-yards, but I could continuously scan to the bunker front right 153.2 yards and the back bunker 172.3 yards etc without taking my finger off the button. And to make the testing complete I would check yardages with playing partners who were using top of the range models and there was no difference in distances being displayed by both units, apart from mine were more accurate with the .7 etc.

For peace of mind you can purchase the Bozily Golf

VproX1 and their other range of rangefinders on Amazon so if you're not satisfied you will get your money back, but believe me you will be more than satisfied. If results and accuracy are the most important thing to you rather than the brand name on the side, then why spend £350-£500 when £80 will do the same job.

### BOZILY GOLF VPRO X1 RANGEFINDER

RRP £69.99 / €81.99 / \$96.99

LINK [Amazon link](#)





**46** FAIRWAY AND BLUEWATER



VIEW.COM

STAY, PLAY & SPA

REVIEW



**51** YAMAHA RESORT





# FAIRWAYS & BLUEWATER

Boracay, Philippines

By Peter Ellegard and JAMES MASON

## ALL IN THE NAME

Peter Ellegard and James Mason travel to the Philippines on separate trips but both come away impressed by Fairways & Bluewater resort's wonderful facilities







Above: The Chairman's Suite with golf course views. Below: The sumptuous Augusta lobby

## FAIRWAYS & BLUEWATER HOTEL REVIEW



If ever a resort was aptly named, it is Fairways & Bluewater. Located in the north west of Philippines tropical holiday island Boracay, it boasts its own private, white-sand beach lapped by the cobalt blue waters of the western Pacific's Sibuyan Sea as well as having the island's only 18-hole golf course.

Boracay's largest hotel, Fairways & Bluewater offers 850 rooms. However, with its accommodation spread over several low-rise blocks, a multitude of swimming pools, bars and dining outlets across the property's expansive 200-acre site and a range of outdoor activities on offer, you never feel shoehorned in with the masses. →

Above right: Sunrise over the golf course  
Right: Aerial view of the golf course with its Sibuyan Sea backdrop



## FAIRWAYS & BLUEWATER GOLF COURSE REVIEW



Graham Marsh hasn't designed many golf courses in Europe, but I have heard some very good reports about his work in Asia so I was looking forward to my first taste of teeing it up on one of his designs. Graeme has won tournaments all over the world including 14 on the European Tour and standing on the first tee I had to smile. Boracay is a tourist island with some beautiful white sand beaches and resort courses which usually tend to be designed with wide fairways with not too much trouble. However, Mr Marsh has put in a high-backed bunker some 150 yards off the tee on this 531-yard par 5 opening hole, an opening salvo to any would be tourist in flip-flops and shorts.

There are also two deep bunkers protecting the corner of the dogleg left. There is water short of the very small green that is surrounded by bunkers which also run down the left-hand side of the fairway. Friends, this is no resort course, this is a test – and you need to bring your A-game.

The red sand bunkers are a feature →





During the global pandemic personal space is all-important, and Fairways & Bluewater offers it in spades – and buckets.

Environment is key for the eco-friendly resort. A partner of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) promoting sustainable and responsible tourism and addressing plastic management concerns in the Philippines, it has its own water treatment plant and has earned accolades from various organisations for its eco-credentials.

Its pristine Paradise Cove beach lies on the opposite side of the island to the lively bars and restaurants that line the public White Beach. Untreated sewage polluting the waters there led the Philippines government to shut Boracay to tourists for six months in 2018 while a huge clean-up operation coupled with work to remedy that and tackle unregulated construction was undertaken. →

Above: One of the room options has pool access. Below: the infinity pool overlooking Fairways & Bluewater's private beach



Above: Looking back down the 1st hole. Left: Palm trees at the 2nd hole

***“Environment is key for the eco-friendly resort. A partner of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) promoting sustainable and responsible tourism”***

of this course along with the palm trees that line the fairways and gently sway in the wind. The manicuring and shaping of the course are perfect and so far, I have hit both fairways before I manage to put my tee shot in the sand at the 171-yard, par 3, 3rd hole, which has water running down the right.

I am smiling openly as I plot my way around the course. From the risk and reward second shot on the par 5, 502-yard, 6th hole with water running in front of the green that is just in range if you get good drive away, water running down the left of the 8th, the second par 3 on the front nine and the water and bunkering protecting the left and right side of the fairway on the 9th, you get →





The 17th tee and fairway

Getting to Fairways & Bluewater involves an hour's flight from Manila to a neighbouring island followed by a transfer with your luggage in one of the resort's speedboats and a 40-minute minibus journey on bustling, narrow roads chockablock with motorised tricycle taxis that make frequent stops and hold up traffic. A refreshing welcome drink quickly relaxes you and after checking in to your room you feel cocooned in tropical serenity.

## ROOMS

There are 16 different room and suite types, all of them spacious and overlooking either the resort's garden or the golf course. Each one features amenities that include free Wi-Fi, cable TV, mini-bar and fridge, coffee and tea maker, free drinking water, air-conditioning, en-suite toilet and bath, hair dryer and in-room safe.

My room looks out over the garden and one of the resort's seven pools.

Several of the room and suite options →



Above: Paradise Cove  
Left and below: Some of the room options available at Fairways and Bluewater



everything you could hope for on the opening nine holes.

I would suggest a buggy as it would be a very long walk between the 9th and 10th holes, but the back nine opens up with another par 5, this one measuring 526 yards played from an elevated tee which has some wonderful sea views behind it. The sea comes back into view on the dogleg left par 4, 12th hole, which again has a deep bunker protecting the corner of the dogleg.

For the big hitters the 13th is driveable at 322 yards but there are two deep bunkers on the front right protecting the green that lays across you and has another bunker back left. The last of the par 3s comes at the 16th and is played from an elevated tee that has some stunning views over the course with the ocean as a backdrop and has a green that is surrounded by bunkers.

The 18th is a fitting finale to the course and is played through a valley, but for the longer hitters there are some bunkers waiting to catch any wayward shots. As I chip and putt for a final par I look back up the fairway; it's been a tough challenge and I have to say I am more than happy with my 77 playing to my handicap especially as it was my first look at the course.

They say first impressions count and I had the feeling this was going to be a tough challenge. There are four teeing option and each will test your golf game, but I am sure that, like me, you'll enjoy every minute of playing this Graham Marsh design.

**COURSE VIDEO**



***“The recipient of numerous awards for excellence from global organisations, review websites and booking platforms, Fairways & Bluewater completed a total renovation at the end of 2020”***

have balconies or terraces with views over the golf course. Bathrobes are also included with some room types. For families, there are interconnecting rooms and suites with two bedrooms and a separate living and dining area.

#### RESTAURANTS AND BAR

Guests have 10 dining venues to choose from, the food a fusion of Filipino fare and cuisines from around the world. There are also 10 bars and lounges, some of them open from morning to midnight.

The new Kudetah Italiano Ristorante and Tapas Bar is set in an entertainment hub giving spectacular views of the beach and sea. Other new dining and drinking additions are the We Chill Gastropub, a laid-back restaurant serving Greek and classic Filipino dishes, the Skydeck Bar, with sea views from on high, the Fiesta Patio festive al fresco zone, the Glass Lounge

that has a glass floor, and the Hideaway Jacuzzi Bar featuring Boracay’s largest outdoor Jacuzzi tub.

There are also six poolside bars, three of them swim-up, and a beachfront bar along with cafes and al fresco and fine dining restaurants.

#### SPA AND WELLNESS

Enjoy a massage on the beach or in the two full-service spas that offer services such as deep-tissue, hot stone, Thai and Swedish massages besides body scrubs and therapies including aromatherapy and reflexology.

Spa users can chill out in a steam room, sauna and Jacuzzi, while the resort also has a gym.

#### ACTIVITIES

If you enjoy an action-packed holiday, you’ll be kept busy at Fairways & Bluewater. Quite apart from its Graham Marsh-designed golf course,

there’s a whole range of activities you can throw yourself into.

One of them you literally do just that, plunging head first down a double zip line and soaring high overhead the green of the golf course’s 1st hole, much to the bemusement of golfers below. A cable car runs alongside, taking zip line riders or those who just want to go along for the views.

You can also ride a Segway along the beach, go horse-riding, biking, enjoy water sports or simply laze on the soft sands of Paradise Cove.

In addition, there’s virtual golf, a sports bar and children’s play lounge and game room to keep the little ones occupied.

A 24-hour shuttle service operates within the resort, using electric buggies, buses and E-jeepneys – eco-friendly versions of the brightly-decorated Filipino truck buses.

Shuttles also take guests to White Beach, where you can sail in an outrigger and bar hop.

● Note – not all activities and amenities may be available due to the coronavirus situation.

#### CONCLUSION

The recipient of numerous awards for excellence from global organisations, review websites and booking platforms, Fairways & Bluewater completed a total renovation at the end of 2020. For holidaymakers itching to travel once again, it offers an untypically tropical paradise experience.

You’d have to go a fair way to find anywhere that even comes close to matching it.

#### Fairways & Bluewater Boracay

Station 1, Barangay Balabag and Yapak Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan Philippines 5608

T: +63 36 288 5587

W: fairwaysandbluewater.com



Left and below: Some of the many activities available at Fairways & Bluewater including sauna, spa treatments, Segways, horse-riding, zip lining and numerous bars to enjoy





# YAMAHA RESORT KATSURAGI KITANOMARU

Shizuoka, Japan

By PETER ELLEGARD

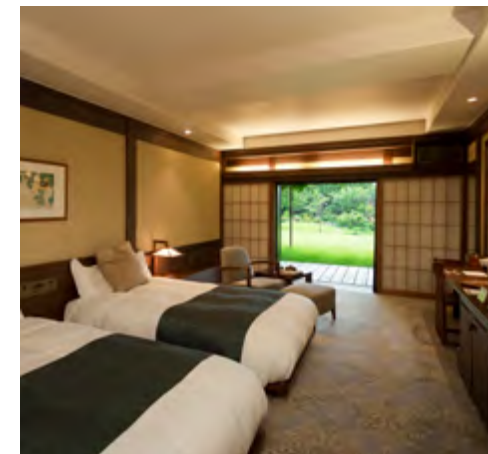
## IN TUNE WITH THE PAST

Taking time out from the  
hustle and bustle of Toyko  
**Peter Ellegard** dons his blue  
yukata and heads to Shizuoka  
and 200 years back in time to  
sample the more tranquil side  
of Japan

Right: The moated  
nagayamon  
gatehouse entrance  
to the Yamaha Resort  
Katsuragi Kitanomaru







Left: The amazing spa facilities. Right: Some of the room options on offer at the resort

I feel like a latter-day samurai as I put on the blue yukata – a leisure-wear kimono – laid out for me on my bed ready to head off for dinner.

The route from my room to the restaurant leads me through an exquisite Japanese walled garden along an open-sided corridor paved with quince wood bricks below a wooden gabled roof sheathed in traditional tiles and via public areas crowned by massive curved beams.

Yet just outside the double-glazed sliding doors of my room an automower is trundling around the manicured lawn, a reminder that where I am staying is very much a mix of the 20th century and bygone times. A letter on the bed explains that there is a fleet of these Swedish-made grass-cutting robots, fondly nicknamed ‘Shibakari-kun’, working 24 hours a day to keep the gardens looking neat and tidy.

Created by the giant Yamaha Group over 40 years ago in the wooded mountains of western Shizuoka Prefecture and owned by it since then, the Yamaha Resort Katsuragi Kitanomaru is a throwback to Japan’s past and reminiscent of an ancient castle, the sense of peace and tranquillity it imbues a world away from the frenetic pace of life today in Tokyo and other Japanese cities.

The historic ambience is authentic. The buildings, handcrafted using

traditional skills some 200 years ago, were rescued from demolition and transported from different sites in the Hokuriku region to their present location when the hotel was built.

Guests arrive through a moated nagayamon gatehouse typical of samurai residences in old Shizuoka after a winding drive lined by cherry trees pink with blossom in spring. Those without cars are picked up by free shuttle from Kakegawa Station 15km away.

## ROOMS

Katsuragi Kitanomaru has just 49 rooms, some of them Japanese-style with screens, straw tatami mats and low furniture. My room is one of the Western-style ones, still with screens but with dark wooden furniture and other natural wood accents that give it a calming and relaxed feel.

Rooms feature flat-screen TVs, DVD players and free minibars plus tea and coffee-making facilities. As with every Japanese hotel I have stayed in, the toilet is in a separate cubicle and self-flushes as well as the lid opening and closing automatically, while an electronic control unit on the wall is equipped with a bank of buttons that allow you to select bidet mode and warm the seat among other options!

## RESTAURANTS AND BAR

The restaurant is informal, for which I am grateful sitting in my yukata and slippers, and serves food made from locally-sourced, seasonal ingredients. I dine with my guide, who speaks little English, so we communicate with smiles, nods and hand gestures as we savour the delicious dishes of our five-course kaiseki tasting dinner. Sashimi, lobster and wagyu beef slip down a treat, although I turn down a wine from the extensive cellar to wash it down with a local beer.

## SPA AND WELLNESS

Chill out in the resort’s three hot spring baths. There is one inside and two outdoors, one of which faces a beautiful bamboo garden. Guests can also use a mist sauna. Sadly I have no time to use any of them on my trip, as they would have been perfect after my taxing round of golf.

## ACTIVITIES

Katsuragi Golf Club, which is adjacent to the resort and also owned and managed by Yamaha, offers two golf courses – the championship Yamana course that I play and the more forgiving Ugari course. A courtesy →



shuttle runs hotel guests to the grand clubhouse and back.

Yamaha-made buggies take four golfers and their clubs plus a female caddy, who drives it but also controls it remotely as it runs along a track guided by a cable buried underneath. From personal experience, it is very unnerving if you are alone in the buggy and it suddenly takes off on its own!

Yamaha is, of course, known for its musical instruments and audio equipment, quite apart from its motorcycle heritage, so it isn't surprising that a building in the resort is wired for sound and dedicated to aural pleasure.

Guests can reserve time to enjoy listening to the company's latest sound systems or play instruments including a grand piano in the room, which has been optimised for acoustics.

CONCLUSION

Embracing Japan's innate omotenashi culture, which means to welcome and unreservedly look after guests and stems from the country's traditional sado tea ceremony, Yamaha Resort Katsuragi Kitanomaru is an intoxicating mix of the past and present where you can forget all your cares and worries in peaceful luxury.

If an Englishman's home is his castle, this is Japan's equivalent.

Yamaha Resort Katsuragi Kitanomaru

2505-2 Ugari, Fukuroi

Shizuoka 437-0121, Japan

T: +81 538 48 6118

W: [yamaharesort.co.jp/katsuragi-kitanomaru/en](http://yamaharesort.co.jp/katsuragi-kitanomaru/en)

Below top row left to right: Yamaha's optimised music room. Two dishes from my five-course kaiseki tasting dinner. 5th hole on the Yamana course



Right: Seating for the traditional Japanese tea ceremony  
Far right: View of the trees in full bloom from the restaurant





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