

JENAFCTS

GOLF HOLIDAYS 2007-2008



WHIRLPOOL GOLF CLUB NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO

For more than fifty years, the Niagara Parks Commission's Whirlpool Golf Course has been the crown jewel of golf in Niagara. Whirlpool GC is set against the spectacular backdrop of the Niagara River, the Falls, as well as Whirlpool and the Gorge. Whirlpool GC is a 'public golf course' in the true sense of the word and features a parkland-style golf venue, fairways lined with mature trees, large greens, wide fairways, numerous strategically placed bunkers and several strategically placed water hazards.

Designed by renowned Canadian architect, Stanley Thompson, and opened in 1951, the Whirlpool GC has distinguished itself among Niagara courses - a perennial pick as one of the best public courses in Canada and "Niagara's favourite golf course". Whirlpool GC enjoys several advantages that, in addition to Thompson's intuitive shaping and routing of the course, help make it a fine test for golfers of varying skills and length off the tee. And it does offer plenty of length - more than 7000 yards from the tips - yet plays shorter than the numbers might suggest. Straight-away holes, generous fairways, short rough and fair bunker placements tempt big hitters throughout the course.

The large greens are also kind - they hold approach shots well, are gently contoured, putt true but not too fast. However, they are typically surrounded by numerous, character-driven bunkers that invariably catch weak or off-line approach shots. Whirlpool's Ohio-grade sand bunkers, carefully restored and upgraded in recent years, are character driven by traditional classic standards, yet generally shallow, soft and easy to get out of, whether in the fairway or greenside. Water hazards, although few and far between, provide an alluring aesthetic dynamic to Whirlpool. The pond at No. 2 protects the front of the green, creating a beautiful but challenging hole. Ponds on the 3rd and 14th holes shouldn't come into play, but hitting across water seems always to both excite and rattle some players.

A magnificent stone/cedar clubhouse which includes the pro shop and restaurant fronts the course on the Niagara Parkway. Practice facilities include a short game area - practice putting/chipping greens and bunkers - a practice hole, but no driving range in the true sense. Whirlpool GC, long an annual destination for golf enthusiasts, provides memorable golf adventure and Niagara hospitality for all calibres of golfer.



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