

GOLF

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TOP 10 NEW COURSES YOU CAN PLAY

Wolfdancer Golf Club at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines

LOST PINES, TEXAS

7,205 yards, par 72

Greens fees: \$145-\$165

512-308-4770, lostpines.hyatt.com

There's a fascinating story behind the origin of the club's name that's too long to relate here, but all that really matters is that this brand new resort 15 miles east of Austin offers one of the more exhilarating courses in the Southwest.

Located adjacent to the McKinney Roughs nature preserve, Wolfdancer is primarily the creation of Chris Wilczynski, a partner in the firm of Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest and Associates. He let his imagination run wild in solving the puzzle of how to route holes over three distinct landforms: rolling prairie, a forested ridgeline and a valley populated with pine and pecan trees. The showstopper is the 155-yard, drop-shot 12th, where the green clings to the side of a mountain and looks like it could give way under the weight of a hefty foursome.

This year's crop of Best New Courses You Can Play is as geographically diverse as the European Ryder Cup squad, covering all four corners of the country. But the differences don't end with location. From celebrated designers and resorts to unknown architects and obscure rural outposts, our editors and course-rating panelists narrowed the field to bring you the best public-access tracks. But these aren't just courses you can play, they're courses you can actually afford to play—you can enjoy four of them for a total cost less than half the price of a round at Pebble Beach!