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## 2022 **British Isles** Golf Cruise Including Attendance to **The 150th Open at St Andrews**

13 Nights | 6 Rounds | Southampton - Dublin | July 12 - 25  
NEW! GOLF LITE OPTION – 3 Great Rounds!  
Cruise PLUS Attendance Only Packages also available!

PerryGolf proudly partners with **Azamara** for this exceptional 13-night golf and sightseeing voyage through the **British Isles**. This cruise with less than 700 guests onboard the outstanding *Azamara Quest* will visit eight ports beginning in **Southampton, England** and concluding in **Dublin, Ireland**. The itinerary is beautifully balanced with famous city experiences like **Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow** and **Belfast** plus exceptional golf at world renowned and highly revered venues around the British Isles.

We start by embracing the striking setting of **Edinburgh** with its castle perched atop the rocky crags looking out upon the Firth of Forth before enjoying the emerging arts and cultural scene of **Dundee**. Northwards to **Invergordon** in the beautiful Scottish Highlands. Visit the city of **Glasgow**, a blossoming cultural hub then travel across to Northern Ireland and view the 21st century resurgence of **Belfast** before travelling to the lovely seafront on the **Isle of Man**. A full day of crypts, cathedrals and pints in **Dublin** awaits on our arrival into Ireland.

The golf line-up is outstanding. Your biggest decision may well be whether to join the **TOM MORRIS** flight, the **ARNOLD PALMER** flight, or the **JAMES BRAID** flight. Whichever you select, you are assured some great golf. All guests begin with the beautiful **Fidra Links** at Archerfield Golf Club in East Lothian, before then watching history unfold as we attend the final two rounds of **The 150th Open at the Old Course, St Andrews**. As we continue on our voyage we will experience some real gems; **Carnoustie** has earned its reputation as the most difficult course in the Open rota and played host again in 2018. **Dumbarrie Links**, eagerly awaited and recently opened to rave reviews as the bold new kid on the Scottish golf block. The magnificent **Royal Dornoch, Castle Stuart** and **Nairn** in the Scottish Highlands. **Royal County Down** is ranked the world's 6th best club in *GOLF Magazine's* 2020/2021 rankings. **Royal Portrush** in Northern Ireland is the only club outside of Scotland and England to host The Open, having the honor in 1951 and 2019. **The Ailsa Course at Turnberry** underwent an extensive renovation and re-opened in 2016 to critical acclaim. **Prestwick Golf Club**, birthplace of The Open in 1860. Finally, we will visit **Portmarnock Links** and 2006 Ryder Cup hosting **K Club** in Dublin, Ireland.

The 5-round **JAMES BRAID** flight also offers a 3-round **GOLF LITE** option affording the opportunity to play three specially selected and acclaimed Scottish links courses – **Archerfield, Nairn** and **Western Gailes**. The rounds are nicely spread throughout the duration of the voyage, ideal for guests who prefer a little less golf and a little more sightseeing, or simply for couples where one half prefers a little more golf than the other half. In all other respects the Golf Lite program is identical, inclusive of all other amenities and participation at all onboard golf group social events, and with included attendance at the final two days of **The 150th Open**.

*Azamara Quest*, which serves as our perfect floating boutique hotel and clubhouse, is a mid-sized luxury vessel nimble enough to access smaller ports yet large enough to provide every amenity you would expect, from a choice of fine dining and live entertainment, to a well-equipped gym and full-service spa. Forty-four suites are available with English butler style service which routinely book early. Sailing schedules often include extended stays in port plus the occasional overnight which allows for a truly immersive experience. Better still, these

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cruises are inclusive of a selection of beers, spirits, soft drinks, bottled water, specialty coffees plus wine with lunch and dinner along with gratuities for housekeeping, dining and bar staff. Azamara also proudly boasts two unique signature events on each cruise – an **AzAmazing Evening<sup>SM</sup>** and the **White Night** party – complimentary to all guests and consistently well received.

Every aspect of the golf program is fully managed by PerryGolf staff onboard and ashore. Your clubs will be ready and waiting at each venue. Tee times and pairings arranged and posted in advance. A convenient transportation schedule affords suitable time to warm up at the range, and to make the almost inevitable pro shop merchandise purchase. Caddies are included (excluding caddie gratuity) for all our guests. A friendly competition is staged at a selected course, with prizes awarded at our farewell gathering. A snack lunch is included on-course plus an open bar operates in the clubhouse at the conclusion of the round. Our typical British Isles Golf Cruise guest list which brings together like-minded individuals generally numbers around 120 (split over two golf courses at each port), with new friendships invariably formed during each cruise. Many guests are golfing couples but an equal number are golfers travelling with a non-golfing spouse. Specially arranged onboard golf group social functions, to which all accompanying non-golfing spouses are most warmly welcomed, further enhances the club-like environment. The award winning **Azamara Shore Excursions®** program, offering a wide variety of off ship excursions, also caters beautifully to our non-golfing guests during days when our golfing excursions are underway.

The “2022 British Isles Golf Cruise & The 150th Open at St Andrews” is a genuinely full-featured vacation and a special opportunity to enjoy yourself in the company of like-minded new friends!

### Top 10 Moments from The Open at St Andrews

### Photo Album

## Detailed Itinerary

### JULY 12, TUESDAY; SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND (EMBARK BY 4:30PM / SAIL 6:00PM)

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Embark *Azamara Quest* from 1:00pm onwards. All aboard 4:30PM.

Welcome Cocktails & Briefing this evening. Meet your fellow participants and PerryGolf’s staff.

#### Overnight: At Sea

### JULY 13, WEDNESDAY: AT SEA

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Today it's time to relax and reset. Make your reservations early for **The Sanctum Spa**, a world-class wellness facility offering a full range of health, beauty and restorative treatments. Complimentary fitness and nutrition classes are available along with a fully equipped gym on Deck 9 offering magnificent sea views. There's room for everyone on the Pool Deck both in and out of the sun. Service to your lounge chair is available from **The Pool Bar** where the attentive staff is always ready to offer an inclusive cocktail, beer, bottled water, soft drink or fresh

towel. **The Patio** restaurant serves casual fare during the day then completely transforms itself into a sit-down al fresco dining experience at night with table linens and candles. Elegant specialty dining is available for beef at **Prime C** and Italian at **Aqualina**. **Windows Café** serves casual buffet dining with every imaginable choice indoors and out at the sensational Sunset Bar.

What a way to spend a day!

### **Overnight: At Sea**

## **JULY 14, THURSDAY: EDINBURGH (LEITH), SCOTLAND (4:00PM / IN PORT)**

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Morning at sea, before afternoon arrival into Edinburgh.

**SIGHTSEEING: Edinburgh** - the inspiring capital of Scotland - is a historic, cosmopolitan and cultured city. The setting is striking; a city perched on a series of extinct volcanoes and rocky crags which rise from the generally flat landscape of the Lothians with the sheltered shoreline of the Firth of Forth to the north. Edinburgh Castle dominates the city-center and from its ramparts you can look down on medieval lanes that hold over a thousand years of history, mystery and tradition. You will also see a modern, dynamic capital where international festivals attract the world's leading performers, galleries display cutting-edge art, and bars, restaurants and clubs create a lively, cosmopolitan atmosphere with a distinctly Scottish twist. No visit to Edinburgh would be complete without a walk up the Royal Mile, which stretches from the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Queen's official residence in Scotland, to Edinburgh Castle. The route is lined with tourist shops but be sure to explore the narrow alleys called closes that lead off the Royal Mile.

Enjoy **Edinburgh** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

[Port Explorer Guide - Edinburgh](#)

### **Overnight: In Port - Edinburgh, Scotland**

## **JULY 15, FRIDAY: EDINBURGH (LEITH), SCOTLAND (IN PORT)**

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ALL FLIGHTS including GOLF LITE: Today play **Archerfield's Fidra Links**. The Fidra lies on sacred ground, between Muirfield's 8th hole and the 9th at North Berwick. Since opening in 2004, it has been a welcome and respected addition to the neighborhood. The card stretches to nearly 7,000 yards but there are four sets of tees to accommodate all levels of play. The greens are large and receptive. Towering pine trees are found throughout but they define the early holes. Beginning at 12, you'll play links style all the way in with fast running fairways, deep bunkers, dunes and striking views of the Firth of Forth and Bass Rock.

### **Overnight: In Port - Edinburgh, Scotland**

## **JULY 16, SATURDAY: EDINBURGH (LEITH), SCOTLAND (IN PORT / 10:00PM)**

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Today attend (as a golf package inclusion) the third round of **The 150th Open at the Old Course at St. Andrews**. A convenient transportation schedule will operate between the ship and the championship venue.

### **Overnight: At Sea**

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## JULY 17, SUNDAY: DUNDEE, SCOTLAND (7:00AM / IN PORT)

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Today attend (as a golf package inclusion) the final round of **The 150th Open at the Old Course at St. Andrews**. A convenient transportation schedule will operate between the ship and the championship venue.

SIGHTSEEING: Once most famous for its industrial character, **Dundee** has evolved into a vibrant art, design, music and theatre scene. It's the UK's first designated UNESCO City of Design and now has the first design museum outside of London. The new V&A Museum of Design is housed in a world-class building at the heart of the newly transformed waterfront. Visit and learn the story of Scotland's outstanding design heritage. **McManus** is Dundee's major museum, but don't miss the Dundee Contemporary Arts. A focal point for the arts and design crowd, the building serves as a design shop, hip café, gallery and arts cinema. Just as must-see is the **Dundee Science Centre** (formerly known as Sensation), a museum devoted to the senses: slide through a cut-away head on a pink tongue, before exiting through a nostril. Sensational, indeed. Down by the waterfront you can explore the Royal Research Ship Discovery, launched in 1901 to explore the South Pole. In the evening the west side of Perth offers great bars and a wonderful view over Britain's most powerful river, the Tay. Find a bench with a pint of Deuchars IPA and watch the river go by.

Enjoy **Dundee** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

[Port Explorer Guide - Dundee](#)

**Overnight: In Port - Dundee, Scotland**

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## JULY 18, MONDAY: DUNDEE, SCOTLAND (IN PORT / 6:30PM)

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TOM MORRIS: Today play **Carnoustie**, host for The 147th Open in 2018. While the links is relatively flat it is exposed to the elements. A combination of length and accuracy are required as golfers face narrow corridors from the tee. Approach shots demand precision to the greens heavily guarded by steep bunkers and burns. Arguably the toughest finishing holes in championship golf, errant shots are severely penalized. Ben Hogan won The Open at Carnoustie in his lone appearance, in 1953. Tom Watson and Gary Player also hoisted the Claret Jug here.

ARNOLD PALMER & JAMES BRAID: Today play **Dumbarnie Links** the dramatic and exciting new kid on the Scottish golf landscape. Located 9 miles south of St Andrews, the layout plays over 345 acres, part of the 5,000-acre Balcarres Estate held by Lord Anthony Balniel and his family since the 16th century. Designed by Clive Clark, a member of the 1973 Great Britain and Ireland Ryder Cup team, the site is highlighted by a mile and a half of sea frontage featuring panoramic views over the Firth of Forth. Its dual elevations, which are connected by a flowing escarpment, provide a number of elevated tees where holes play directly towards the sea.

Enjoy **Dundee** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

[Port Explorer Guide - Dundee](#)

**Overnight: At Sea**

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## JULY 19, TUESDAY: INVERGORDON, SCOTLAND (8:00AM / 8:00PM)

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TOM MORRIS: Today play **Castle Stuart Golf Links**. One of the newest additions to the links courses of Scotland. Castle Stuart runs along the shores of the Moray Firth to the east of Inverness with wonderful views over to the Black Isle. Six holes hug the shoreline while the remaining holes are played over a terraced slope so views out to sea are ever present. Already included in the World's Top 100.

ARNOLD PALMER: Today play **Royal Dornoch**. The curving bay of the Dornoch Firth and its magnificent white broad beaches are backed by a narrow strip of softly contoured dune land rising in two distinctive levels, providing just enough room for parallel fairways. The ridges, hillocks, dunes and undulating links land have all the characters of the best of links courses, and most of the difficulties. Old Tom Morris was the architect responsible for extending the original 9 holes layout to 18 holes in 1886. He introduced the plateau greens which are the soul of the course, their uniqueness lies in their size and their inverted saucer shapes.

JAMES BRAID including GOLF LITE: Play today at **Nairn**, a renowned links course and venue of many major tournaments including the 1999 Walker Cup Matches and the 2012 Curtis Cup. As usual in Scotland for an early club, Nairn was founded in 1887, it has passed through many hands beginning with Archie Simpson's original. Old Tom Morris lengthened it. James Braid took a turn, as did Ben Sayers, then Braid returned to top it off. Never content however, the club enlisted Mackenzie & Ebert recently for new greens, fairway bunkers and tees. Nairn is a traditional links played hard against Moray Firth which threatens on six of the first seven holes.

SIGHTSEEING: **Invergordon** is the deep-water port for **Inverness**, the capital of the Scottish Highlands and your gateway to an area of the Highlands known as the "Great Glen." Travel 20 miles north to the picturesque town of **Dornoch** to see its sandstone buildings, beautiful domestic gardens and tiny 13th Century cathedral. Ten miles further you'll find the fairy-tale ancestral home of the Clan Sutherland - **Dunrobin Castle** - one of the oldest inhabited houses in Scotland, dating back to the 13th century. The stunning formal gardens which run down to the sea are based on those at Versailles and were laid out in the 1850s. Daily displays of the ancient sport of falconry take place in the gardens. Less than an hour south is magnificent **Cawdor Castle**, the setting for Shakespeare's Macbeth. The 14th century home of the Thaness of Cawdor is considered one of the most romantic stately homes in the Highlands with its fine collection of rare tapestries, portraits and furniture plus lovely gardens and grounds.

Enjoy **Invergordon** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions**®.

Port Explorer Guide - Invergordon

**Overnight: At Sea**

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## JULY 20, WEDNESDAY: AT SEA

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Another relaxing day onboard *Azamara Quest*, enjoying its many amenities.

**Overnight: At Sea**

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## JULY 21, THURSDAY: BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND (7:00AM / 8:00PM)

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TOM MORRIS: Today play **Royal County Down**. Located in the town of Newcastle to the south of Belfast. No. 4 in

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Golf Magazine's 2017 world rankings, this is a vintage test of links golf set against the magnificent backdrop of the Mountains of Mourne. Host to the 2007 Walker Cup Match featuring a young local by the name of Rory McIlroy, and an all-star USA line up that included Dustin Johnson, Webb Simpson and Rickie Fowler.

ARNOLD PALMER: Today play **Royal Portrush**. An outstanding course in a dramatic setting. Royal Portrush holds the distinction of being the only course in Ireland to have hosted The Open, first doing so in 1951, then again when the championship returned in 2019. The Dunluce Course is as fine a links as you will find anywhere, with the 5th being a particularly memorable hole to a green hanging on the edge of a cliff. Consistently ranked in the top 20 of the world's best courses, nearly every legend of golf has accepted the challenge of Royal Portrush.

SIGHTSEEING: **Belfast** in the early 20th century had the largest and most productive shipyard in the world, gaining global renown with the launch of the RMS Titanic. Located on the slipways where she was built is a stunning new museum, opened in time for the 100th anniversary of Titanic's only voyage and tragic demise. Today the city and riverfront are undergoing a 21st century transformation, but many exuberant Victorian and Edwardian buildings still sport the carved heads of kings and queens. As you explore the city, keep an eye out for 'the murals'. These somewhat troubling freelance works appearing on building walls provide insight into the period known simply as 'The Troubles'.

Enjoy **Belfast** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

**Port Explorer Guide - Belfast**

**Overnight: At Sea**

**JULY 22, FRIDAY: GLASGOW (GREENOCK), SCOTLAND (7:00AM / 8:00PM)**

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TOM MORRIS: Today play the **Ailsa Course at Trump Turnberry**. Lying on a spectacular curve of rockbound coast, the coastal scenery is magnificent especially from the 4th through the 11th. No one can forget the 1977 'Duel in the Sun' between Jack Nicklaus & Tom Watson when Watson's weekend of 65-65 edged Nicklaus by one. In 2009, the Ailsa Course hosted The Open for the 4th time when Tom Watson almost clinched the championship as a 59-year-old, losing out to Stewart Cink in a playoff for the famed Claret Jug. A major renovation was completed in 2016 which produced an impressive improvement in the club's already prominent world rankings.

ARNOLD PALMER: Today play **Prestwick Golf Club** one of the world's oldest clubs and whose very testing and traditional links hosted the very first Open in 1860. The winner was Willie Park from Musselburgh with a score of 174 for thirty-six holes, two shots clear of the legendary Old Tom Morris. Prestwick was home to the first eleven Opens and then held it jointly along with The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers (Muirfield). Prestwick's twenty fourth and last Open was in 1925 when Jim Barnes from the USA won. Only the Old Course of St Andrews hosted The Open more than Prestwick.

JAMES BRAID including GOLF LITE: Play today at **Western Gailes**, rated by many visitors to Scotland as one of its best keep secrets and immensely enjoyable. The course lies between the railway and the sea like many others in Ayrshire. Its only two holes wide, with nine played along the sea and nine played beside the railway. Variety gives Western its special character. The seaside holes are routed through classic links land with dunes, high grass and the beach. These are arguably more difficult than the inland holes while are slightly longer with heavier bunkering. Your caddie here will often be a club member who typically cannot resist sharing the club's

story with visitors.

**SIGHTSEEING: Glasgow**, a reinvented industrial center in western Scotland, has solidified its reputation as a cultural hub. Charles Rennie Mackintosh is one of the first names to know; he was a prodigious architect, interior designer and artist, and the city has a wealth of his work. Stop by his Willow Tea Rooms for a cup of tea and a scone. The Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum whose blue and gold inlaid ceiling, Art Deco hanging lamps and marble floors are sufficient reason to visit, let alone the impressive art collection that includes Salvador Dal's controversial 'Christ of St John of the Cross'. **Glasgow** has an abundance of excellent seafood dining. **The Crabshakk** is perfect for daily catches including ruby red langoustines. The oyster bar at Rogano in Exchange Square is where power brokers celebrate deals with a glass of Champagne and a dozen oysters in a space designed to look like a 1930s Art Deco cruise liner. At the Pot Still, an institution that dates from 1857, choose from over 450 malt whiskies like Lagavulin or Arran.

Enjoy **Glasgow** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

[Port Explorer Guide - Glasgow](#)

**Overnight: At Sea**

## **JULY 23, SATURDAY: DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN (9:00AM / 9:00PM)**

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**SIGHTSEEING:** The tiny **Isle of Man** is filled with entertaining sights and scenery. Douglas' lovely seafront is lined with picturesque hotels and restaurants and can be traversed by horse-drawn trams as it has been since 1876. There's a medieval fortress in Castletown; a ruined castle on the Isle of St. Patrick where tales of Vikings, monks, and a ghost dog abound; and the village of **Cregneash**, where people live in thatched cottages, speak the native Manx language, and practice traditional trades and crafts. Front gardens on residential streets are a standout, awash in colour and scent.

Enjoy the **Isle of Man** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

[Port Explorer Guide - Douglas, Isle of Man](#)

**Overnight: At Sea**

## **JULY 24, SUNDAY: DUBLIN, IRELAND (7:00AM / IN PORT)**

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**TOM MORRIS:** Today play **Portmarnock Links**. This challenging traditional links course provides outstanding views over Howth and the Irish Sea. The first five holes heading away from the sea provide a gentle start, but then the course comes alive as the holes make their way through the dunes back towards the sea. The back nine provides a series of visually stunning links holes loaded with deep bunkers, featuring steep faces giving the course a traditional look while incorporating modern architectural techniques. *Note: Golf cart venue*

**ARNOLD PALMER & JAMES BRAID:** Today play the **Palmer Ryder Cup Course of The K Club**. This beautiful parkland course was designed by Arnold Palmer and hosted the 2006 Ryder Cup with all its attendant drama. Risk-reward opportunities are ever present as the course covers an area of mature woodland to the west of Dublin City to which fourteen lakes have been added. *Note: Golf cart venue*



**SIGHTSEEING:** There is a lot to see in **Dublin**. A good place to begin is The National Museum of Ireland on Kildare Street for a well-designed archaeological collection featuring Bronze Age gold jewelry and Viking swords. The stars of the show are the 'bog people' - preserved corpses of men who were killed (presumably sacrificed) and tossed into peat bogs during the Iron Age. The preservative qualities are remarkable. Dublin is home to **St. Patrick's Cathedral** of course but much of Ireland's history can be read in **Christ Church Cathedral**, which dates back to circa 1030. The medieval crypt is full of treasures plus the belfry tour provides a beautiful view and an up-close look at the flying buttresses, as well as the chance to try bell-ringing. Dublin's booming culinary scene is found along Exchequer Street where The Green Hen has won many admirers with its combination of French atmosphere and Franco-Irish cuisine made with locally sourced ingredients. Try the pan-fried duck breast. Finally, while craft beer is certainly the popular new thing, a pint of 'the black stuff' is still required drinking on any trip to Dublin. **The Guinness Storehouse** museum at the St. James's Gate brewery explains how the stout is made and how to pull a proper pint at the correct 45-degree angle and waiting 119.5 seconds before topping it off. Take it up to the Gravity Bar, where the 360-degree view of Dublin is worth lingering over.

Enjoy **Dublin** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions**®.

Port Explorer Guide - Dublin

**Overnight: At Sea**

**JULY 25, MONDAY: DUBLIN, IRELAND (IN PORT / DISEMBARK AT 9:00AM)**

Disembark *Azamara Quest* at 9:00AM.

## Golf Schedule

**ARCHERFIELD: EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND**



**Archerfield's Fidra Links.** The Fidra lies on sacred ground, between the 8th hole and Muirfield and the 9th at North Berwick. Since opening in 2004, it has been a welcome and respected addition to the neighborhood. The card stretches to nearly 7,000 yards but there are four sets of tees to accommodate all levels of play. The greens are large and receptive. Towering pine trees are found throughout but they define the early holes. Beginning at 12, you'll play links style all the way in with fast running fairways, deep bunkers, dunes and striking views of the Firth of Forth and Bass Rock.

**CARNOUSTIE: ANGUS, SCOTLAND**

While the links is relatively flat it is exposed to the elements. A combination of length and accuracy are required as golfers face narrow corridors from the tee. Approach shots demand precision to the greens heavily guarded by steep bunkers and burns. Arguably the toughest finishing holes in





championship golf, errant shots are severely penalized. Ben Hogan won The 82nd Open at Carnoustie in his lone appearance, in 1953. Tom Watson and Gary Player also hoisted the Claret Jug here.

## DUMBARNIE GOLF LINKS: ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

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**Dumbarnie Links** is Scotland's newest links course which opened for play in 2020 to rave reviews. Located 9 miles south of St Andrews, the layout plays over 345 acres, part of the 5,000-acre Balcarres Estate held by Lord Anthony Balniel and his family since the 16th century. Designed by Clive Clark, a member of the 1973 Great Britain and Ireland Ryder Cup team, the site is highlighted by a mile and a half of sea frontage featuring panoramic views over the Firth of Forth. Its dual elevations, which are connected by a flowing escarpment, provide a number of elevated tees where holes play directly towards the sea. The design incorporates three potentially driveable par-4s along with several holes that present tempting risk/reward opportunities. This course is designed to inspire rather than intimidate golfers. Total yardage will vary from 5,300 to 6,900 yards.

## CASTLE STUART GOLF LINKS: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND

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An outstanding addition to the links courses of Scotland. Set along the shores of the Moray Firth to east of Inverness with wonderful views over to the Black Isle, Kessock Bridge and Chanonry Lighthouse. Six holes hug the shoreline while the remaining holes are played over a terraced slope, delivering ever present views out to the rolling seas. A true links course in every sense with riveted natural bunkers and rumpled fairways. A regular host course for the Scottish Open.



## ROYAL DORNOCH: SUTHERLAND, SCOTLAND

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The curving bay of the Dornoch Firth and its magnificent white broad beaches are backed by a narrow strip of softly contoured dune land rising in two distinctive levels, providing just enough room for parallel fairways. The ridges, hillocks, dunes and undulating links land have all the characters of the best of links courses, and most of the difficulties. Old Tom Morris was the architect responsible for extending the original 9 holes layout to 18 holes in 1886. He introduced the plateau greens which are the soul of the course, their uniqueness lies in their size and their inverted saucer shapes.

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## THE NAIRN GOLF CLUB: NAIRN, SCOTLAND

A renowned links course and venue of many major tournaments including the 1999 Walker Cup Matches and the 2012 Curtis Cup. As usual in Scotland for an early club, **Nairn** was founded in 1887, it has passed through many hands beginning with Archie Simpson's original. Old Tom Morris lengthened it. James Braid took a turn, as did Ben Sayers, then Braid returned to top it off. Never content however, the club enlisted Mackenzie & Ebert recently for new greens, fairway bunkers and tees. Nairn is a traditional links played hard against Moray Firth which threatens on six of the first seven holes.



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## ROYAL COUNTY DOWN GOLF CLUB: NEWCASTLE, NORTHERN IRELAND



Situated in the shadows of the Mourne mountains. A spectacular location and an outstanding links golf course. Its charm lies in the old fashioned flavor of both the terrain and the layout. A mix of rugged dunes, colored by a blend of purple heather and yellow flowering gorse combine to a dramatic effect on what is one of the toughest courses in the British Isles. Venue for the Walker Cup in 2007 and consistently ranked in the top 10 courses in the world.

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## ROYAL PORTRUSH – DUNLUCE COURSE: PORTRUSH, NORTHERN IRELAND

An outstanding course in a dramatic setting. **Royal Portrush** holds the distinction of being the only course in Ireland to have hosted The Open, first doing so in 1951, then again when the championship returned in 2019. The Dunluce Course is as fine a links as you will find anywhere, with the 5th being a particularly memorable hole to a green hanging on the edge of a cliff. Consistently ranked in the top 20 of the world's best courses, nearly every legend of golf has accepted the challenge of Royal Portrush.



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## TRUMP TURNBERRY AILSA COURSE: AYRSHIRE, SCOTLAND



The course underwent a significant renovation and opened as a new layout in June 2016. Lying on a spectacular curve of rockbound coast in the southern reaches of Ayrshire. The course now makes the most of the coastal scenery especially from the 4th through the 11th passing the famous landmark lighthouse at the turn, which is now a stunning halfway house. This is a demanding links course, and an ever present wind will make for a tough examination of your golfing skills.

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## PRESTWICK: AYRSHIRE, SCOTLAND

It was here in 1860 that the very first Open Championship was played with just a handful of participants. This links can produce some awkward stances on undulating fairways. Typical of the original golfing terrain, **Prestwick** provides a taste of golf as it was played long ago. The 11th Hole “Carrick” is a fierce par-3, measuring 213 yards from the championship tees with the Firth of Clyde to the golfer’s right and a strong crosswind often howling across a well-bunkered green.



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## WESTERN GAILES: IRVINE, SCOTLAND



**Western Gailes**, rated by many visitors to Scotland as one of its best kept secrets and immensely enjoyable. The course lies between the railway and the sea like many others in Ayrshire. Its only two holes wide, with nine played along the sea and nine played beside the railway. Variety gives Western its special character. The seaside holes are routed through classic links land with dunes, high grass and the beach. These are arguably more difficult than the inland holes while are slightly longer with heavier bunkering. Your caddie here will often be a club member who typically cannot resist sharing the club’s story with visitors.

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## K CLUB RYDER CUP COURSE: STRAFFAN, IRELAND

The familiar host of the 2006 Ryder Cup sits amid 550 acres of mature woodland west of Dublin City. There are 14 lakes on the property and water hazards abound on this well-manicured design, considered one of the finest parkland courses in Ireland. It features large greens with severe slopes and its only fitting that Palmer’s favorite hole was No. 4, a risk-reward par 5 where overhanging trees guard the right side and the green entices golfers to take a swing.



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## PORTMARNOCK LINKS: DUBLIN, IRELAND



This challenging traditional links course provides outstanding views over Howth and the Irish Sea. The first five holes heading away from the sea provide a gentle start, but then the course comes alive as the holes make their way through the dunes back towards the sea. The back nine provides a series of visually stunning links holes loaded with deep bunkers, featuring steep faces giving the course a traditional look while incorporating modern architectural techniques.



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