

LINKS[®]

THE BEST OF GOLF[®]







RANKING THE WORLD

With the fourth and final installment of our series ranking the world's golf nations (outside the U.S.) we consider the remainder of the globe, from South America to South Africa, Canada to the Caribbean

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Teeth of the Dog, Dominican Republic

GOLF TRIPS

The top four countries in this ranking are blessed with bucket-list-type layouts that golfers across the world are eager to play. Each of Teeth of the Dog, Mid Ocean, Punta Espada, Albany, and Sandy Lane lure serious global golfers to the Caribbean each year. The same is true of St. George's, Banff Springs, Jasper Park, Capilano, Hamilton, Toronto GC, Devil's Pulpit/Paintbrush, Highlands Links, and the Cabot courses in Canada, as well as Diamante (Dunes), Cabo del Sol (Ocean), Punta Mita, Querencia, Chileno Bay, and Vista Vallarta in Mexico.

While you need serious connections to organize games at the top private clubs in such places, each of the leading courses in South Africa is welcoming of outside play and, relatively speaking, inexpensive. Again, some people might be scared away, which is a shame because a trip that includes old-school gems such as Durban, Humewood, and Glendower along with the likes of Fancourt, St. Francis Links, Pezula, and Sun City would be unforgettable—and affordable.

For those on the lookout for a value trip and not prepared to risk travel in South Africa, both Canada and Morocco are excellent options. The rack rate to play the Cabot courses in peak season is well over our maximum of \$150, but you can still include Highlands Links, Jasper Park, Bigwin Island, Greywolf, Tobiano, and others as part of a more economical itinerary. In Morocco, most golfers would be surprised at the quality of a tour that includes Mazagan, Tazegzout, Michlifen, Royal Dar Es Salem (Red and Blue), and courses like Assoufid, Palm Golf, and Royal Palm in and around Marrakech.

BUCKET LIST

"Money No Object" itinerary

CANADA: Cabot Cliffs, Cabot Links, Highlands Links, St. George's, Banff Springs, Jasper Park, Capilano, Toronto GC, Hamilton, Devil's Paintbrush, Devil's Pulpit, Beacon Hall, The National, Victoria

SOUTH AFRICA: Durban, Fancourt (Links), Humewood, Glendower, Sun City (Gary Player), St. Francis Links, Pearl Valley, Pezula, Wild Coast, Royal Johannesburg (East/West), Houghton, Arabella

MEXICO: Diamante (Dunes/El Cardonal), Cabo del Sol (Ocean/Desert), **Punta Mita**, Chileno Bay, Querencia, Quivira, El Dorado, Vista Vallarta, Puerto Penasco, El Camaleon Mayakoba, Twin Dolphin, Club de Golf Mexico, TPC Danzante Bay, Costa Palmas, Rancho San Lucas

CARIBBEAN: Teeth of the Dog, Punta Espada, Punta Cana (Corales), Mid Ocean Club, Sandy Lane (Green Monkey), Dye Fore, Apes Hill, Baker's Bay, Abaco Club at Winding Bay, Royal Westmoreland, Albany

ARGENTINA: Jockey Club (Red/Blue), Olivos, Buenos Aires, Termas de Rio Hondo, Chapelco

BRAZIL: Rio Olympic, Terravista, Santapazienza, Gavea

MOROCCO: Mazagan, Michlifen, Tazegzout, Royal Dar Es Salam (Red), Royal d'Agadir, Assoufid, Fairmont Royal Palm Marrakech, Samanah

UAE: Yas Links, Al Zorah, The Emirates (Majlis), Trump Dubai, Dubai Hills, Abu Dhabi GC, Els Club, Saadiyat Beach, Jumeirah (Earth/Fire), The Montgomerie

CHILE: Los Leones, Patagonia Virgin, La Serena, Rocas de Santo Domingo

URUGUAY: Carmelo, Club de Golf Uruguay, Santa Martina