



# TRAIL GUIDE

THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO ALABAMA'S ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL » 2018



# THIS IS *Alabama*

And from our James Beard  
Award-winning restaurants to our  
barbecue joints, you can take it all in.

## *Feel*

the flavors of local wine  
dancing on your tastebuds

Sweet Home  
**Alabama**  
[www.Alabama.Travel](http://www.Alabama.Travel)

## *See*

the delicious locally  
sourced produce

## *Smell*

the wood-fire oven  
roasted seafood

## *Taste*

the freshness of fish  
straight from the Gulf

# OFF THE TRAIL

KAY IVEY,  
GOVERNOR,  
STATE OF  
ALABAMA



**As Governor of the great state of Alabama,** it is my honor to welcome you to our sweet home, and to our pride and joy, the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. The Trail encompasses 11 locations that proudly offer 26 spectacular courses. From north to south, east to west, you can quickly and easily access the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

Before, after, or in-between your rounds of golf, I encourage you to visit the towns and cities near your destination. From large metropolitan areas with access to great shopping, to small towns with charming main streets filled with delightful restaurants, I hope you will take the time to truly discover Alabama.

Alabama has so much to offer – from the Trail, to our history, to our people – here you can experience stories of the past, exciting thrills of the present, and

join in dreaming of the endless possibilities of the future. Whether you are teeing off, touring the NASA-Marshall Space Flight Center, visiting historic Dexter-King Memorial Baptist Church, or walking along our beaches, we are honored to have you here. I know you will soon discover why Alabama really is our sweet home.

Welcome to Alabama; we are honored to have you here!

Kay Ivey  
Governor





Short Course No. 4 at Cambrian Ridge

# TRAIL GUIDE 2018

## 6 BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME

*Lone Star Golf* shares insights to the Trail's scenery, personality, and design.

## 8 EXPLORING THE ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL

Whether you are a regular or a first-time visitor, learn about RTJ's history and tips on tackling the Trail from *LINKS* Magazine.

## 12 BIRTHDAY BASH

As it turned 25, RTJ refreshed its courses and hotels, according to *Golfweek*.

## 16 PARDON OUR PROGRESS

The RTJ Resort Collection adds new hotel rooms and luxury options.

## 24 ON EXHIBIT: ALABAMA ART

Praised internationally for his unique style of art, this acclaimed artist from Alabama goes simply by one name, Nall.

## 26 RELAXING AFTER YOUR ROUND

Spa Trail offers golfers recovery and relaxation options.

## 30 RTJ LIVING

Golf Trail's resort communities offer luxury living just steps away from the courses.

## 34 WEAVER WINS GUARDIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Win in Prattville helps Lindsey Weaver earn her LPGA Card.

## 36 A VISITOR'S GUIDE TO THE TRAIL

A detailed guide and map to all 11 sites on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

---

### ON THE COVERS

Lake No. 15 at Grand National

---

Golf landscape photography throughout by Michael Clemmer.



# ‘BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME’

ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF PERFECTION

BY DAVE FINN  
LONE STAR GOLF

Kevin Costner’s iconic 1989 movie "Field of Dreams" may not have won an Oscar, but it sparked a winner. Let me take you behind the scenes, and tell you about another man’s vision.

A golfer’s dream would be to have 18 of their favorite holes featured on a single course. Dr. David Bronner, CEO of the Retirement Systems of Alabama, had a dream to invest his organization’s pension funds and build 26 world-class golf courses that would challenge people enough that “they will want to come back and try again.”

Bronner may not have heard the voices like Ray Kinsella, but he listened to the call and tapped into his creativity and courage to do what no one else could imagine. Once he lured the legendary Robert Trent Jones Sr. out of semi-retirement, there was no looking back. With Jones as his co-director, the result is an extraordinary

golf trail that meanders across Alabama, from the Appalachians in the north all the way down to the Gulf of Mexico. *Golf Digest* has declared the RJT Trail as “the number one value in the country for golf.”

“The very best courses are those where nature provides the canvas,” Jones has said. “My job is to discover her secrets and reveal them.” Bronner also was convinced the Trail would attract tourism and industry to Alabama. He was right.

A golfer gets a feeling for a course based on what makes it a great experience for him or her. Here is what left a memorable impression on me after visiting the RJT Golf Trail during its 25th anniversary.



Ross Bridge No. 17

**SCENERY** The Judge at Capitol Hill has one of the most incredible opening holes in golf. As you stare down a 200-foot bluff to a sliver of a fairway with a well-protected peninsula green that juts out into the Alabama River, it will take your breath away.

The layout traverses 200 acres of river backwaters with 14 holes that feature water hazards, making accuracy more important than distance. Here, you can also play the Legislator, a more traditional parkland course framed by tall pines and built along a large bluff, or the Senator, a Scottish Links-style design with more than 150 sod-faced pot bunkers and mounds that stretch 40 feet towards the sky.

**CHALLENGE** Ross Bridge in Hoover is the fourth-longest golf course in the world. From the very back tees, it plays all of 8,191 yards. Surrounded by the foothills, it features elevation changes and forced carries that provide drama and danger.

Ten holes play along the shoreline, and the waterfall that spills into the central lake is best viewed from the 9th and 18th tee boxes. Linger until dusk to hear the soulful sounds of a bagpiper as he makes his way to the putting green. You'll be transported "across the pond" at this challenging course that once played host to the Champions Tour's Regions Charity Classic.

**PERSONALITY** Grand National near Auburn/Opelika offers three 18-hole layouts. The Lakes Course is the home of the PGA TOUR's Barbasol Championship that runs

the same week as the British Open. Built around 600-acre Lake Saugahatchee, 12 holes nudge the shoreline and will test your skills against the pros.

The Links Course reportedly has the strongest finishing hole on the Trail, but the Short Course was my favorite. With a good combination of short and long holes, some uphill, some downhill and more than half touching the lake, every hole is unique and what I'd consider a signature hole anywhere else.

**DESIGN** Personally, I'm a big fan of huge elevation changes, and in this category, I'm torn between two contenders. Oxmoor Valley near Birmingham literally rocks. The Ridge, built on the site of a former mine once owned by U.S. Steel, takes full advantage of the peaks and valleys of the Appalachian mountain range. It showcases towering shale formations, more than 150 feet in height, and rich, dense forests.

Cambrian Ridge boasts three nine-hole layouts. The Canyon was carved out of a former hunting ground, and the first hole will both inspire and intimidate you, a par-5 that drops 200 feet from the tee to the fairway. And that's only the beginning of the adventure.

With 11 sites, 26 courses, and 468 holes of golf, the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail is varied, fun, challenging, and affordable. Often imitated but never replicated, it's no wonder the *New York Times* declared the RJT Golf Trail as "the best public golf on earth." ■

---

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, A NETWORK OF PUBLIC-ACCESS GOLF COURSES OPENED IN EVERY CORNER OF ALABAMA, AND THE STATE HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE.

---



# EXPLORING

## THE ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL

---

BY TONY DEAR, *LINKS* MAGAZINE

---

Back in the mid-to-late 1980s, the CEO of Alabama's state employee pension fund—the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA)—hatched an outlandish plan to build multiple golf courses simultaneously throughout the state, a state never before regarded as a golf destination. Nothing like it had ever been conceived, let alone attempted, but this man hoped to attract golf tourists and stimulate economic activity. Absurd, right?

A graduate of Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees, and later taught business and finance courses, Dr. David Bronner also attended the University of Alabama, where he received a law degree in 1971, and a Ph.D. the following year. He then taught more business, finance, and

education courses at various graduate schools before becoming Assistant Dean of the Law School at UA. In 1973, at the age of 28, he was given the top job at RSA.

With that level of education, and those qualifications and academic/real life experience, perhaps Bronner could be trusted, and his somewhat wild and unconventional proposal for a golf trail might not be so crazy after all.

Now, a quarter of a century later, with a total of eleven sites, 468 holes, and eight major resorts, half a million rounds a year are played on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, and RSA's assets have grown from about \$8 billion to over \$37 billion—credit for which doesn't go to the Trail entirely, but it remains by far the most conspicuous and ambitious of Bronner's investments. ...»







Dr. David G. Bronner

## HOW TO TACKLE THE TRAIL

There probably are people—mad golf addicts—that have played all 26 courses in one trip. Such a voyage would mean roughly 85 miles of golf, and over 700 miles of driving, however, so it's probably best to do it in chunks.

I've visited six Trail sites on three separate trips—Ross Bridge in Hoover in 2010 when I played the back tees from 8,191 yards and had no fun at all (Director of Golf Chip Purser told me no one had been “stupid enough” to play all 18 from the tips); Magnolia Grove and Lakewood outside Mobile in 2014; and Hampton Cove, The Shoals, and Silver Lakes in the northern third of the state just a few weeks ago.

Jones has never been my architectural cup of tea, but I have to say I've enjoyed every Trail course I've visited, even Ross Bridge which is no doubt a beautiful place and probably good fun when played from a more suitable set of tees. With the mighty Tennessee River to the right and the plantation-style clubhouse high above the green, the par-three 18th on the Fighting Joe Course at The Shoals is probably the prettiest hole I've ever seen. And, despite the ominous names, the Heartbreaker and Mindbreaker nines at Silver Lakes probably possess my favorite Trail holes. At first light on a sunny day, the place is really rather delightful.

The most you'll pay for a round on the Trail is the \$142 (including cart) it costs to play Ross Bridge—considered the Trail's flagship facility—before 10:30 am during fall and winter. But the typical price for 18 holes with cart on the majority of Trail courses is less than \$90. Annual memberships are available and start at \$1,500, and Trail Card (\$40) members get discounts of up to 50% on green fees—the only problem being you have to be an Alabama resident, or live within 100 miles of a Trail course, to qualify.

## HISTORY OF THE RTJ TRAIL

Bronner hired Robert Vaughn, a former Director of Golf at Tanglewood Golf Club in Clemmons, N.C., to expand the idea and put together a design team. Vaughn also set up SunBelt Golf Corporation to manage the courses, and worked hard on

selling the idea to municipalities, corporations, and private developers in order to secure donations of prime land within easy driving distance of the state's major highway system.

To design the holes, Bronner and Vaughn chose Robert Trent Jones, who had worked on 500+ courses during a 50-year career. Then well into his 80s, Jones had more or less retired, and what little work he was doing was mostly overseas.

But Bronner knew the value of Jones's name. This was five years before Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw built Sand Hills; a decade before David Kidd's Bandon Dunes opened and American golfers got to experience the beauty of links golf at home; long before Tom Doak's minimalist movement started trending; and 20 years before firm/fast/natural/strategic/Golden Age-inspired openings almost became routine. During the 1960s and 70s, Jones had been the most prominent figure in the industry, and though Jack Nicklaus, Pete Dye, Tom Fazio, and his own two sons, Robert and Rees, had supplanted him by the end of the 1980s, Bronner still considered him the ideal man for his trail, and somehow managed to coax him back to work.

During design and construction of the courses, Jones relied heavily on his young associate Roger Rulewich, who graduated from Yale in 1958 with a degree in civil engineering. Rulewich learned everything he knew about golf from Jones, and the holes he built were clearly inspired by his mentor. Classic Jones course characteristics such as big, contoured greens, a large front bunker, plenty of water, and at least one “signature hole” were evident throughout the Trail, whose first four sites—Hampton Cove in the north of the state, Magnolia Grove in the southwest, Oxmoor Valley in the middle, and Grand National in the east—opened in 1992.

Alabama's RTJ Golf Trail has been acclaimed since it opened 25 years ago, and deservedly so. There are better courses in the Yellowhammer State, but few would deny the Trail was an inspired (if slightly wacky) idea, has made a considerable contribution to the wealth and identity of the state, and really is a magnificent achievement. ■



Bagpiper at Renaissance Ross Bridge

---

# BIRTH DAY BASH

AS IT TURNS 25, ALABAMA'S ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL HAS BEEN REFRESHED THANKS TO COURSE RENOVATIONS AND SOME SWANK HOTELS.

---

BY MARTY KAUFMANN, TRAVEL EDITOR, *GOLF WEEK* MAGAZINE

My first buddies trip to Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail was in early 2001. I'd spent plenty of time in Alabama prior to that. My big sister, the saintly Mary, had married into a Birmingham family, so we'd occasionally visit, usually on the way to my mom's house near Panama City, Fla. Along the way, I sometimes squeezed in a spare round at one of the Trail stops. But 2001 was the first time visiting with some buddies.

At the time, the golf magazine I was editing in New York had just folded. So I pitched another near-bankrupt golf magazine on the idea of sending me and three unemployed pals to Alabama. It seemed like the perfect Trail story: We'd pile our luggage and clubs into an SUV, loop around the southern half of the Trail — Opelika, Montgomery, Greenville, Mobile, and Dothan — survive on fast food and sleep in fleabag motels. That was what the Trail was all about, right? Rise early, play as many holes as possible, pound beers and burgers late into the evening, pile into your \$59/night room with three of your buddies, sleep it off, wake up, and do it all over again.

This month marks the 25th anniversary of the Trail, which was birthed by David Bronner, CEO of the Retirement Systems of Alabama. Like the state itself, the Trail has undergone significant changes over the past quarter century, both on the golf courses and off.

Last year, I visited several Trail stops. In Mobile, the Battle House Renaissance Hotel & Spa is one of the finest hotel restorations you'll ever find and an anchor for a vibrant part of downtown that's a welcome departure from the darkened

streets and empty storefronts I saw in 2001. To the south, across Mobile Bay, the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort is one of the more quaint hideaways in the Southeast. In Muscle Shoals, the state's historic music destination, Rodney Hall of FAME Studios told me the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa has helped him recruit top recording acts because he can provide four-star accommodations.

"(The hotels) really expanded the demographics we could sell to," said John Cannon, CEO of SunBelt Golf Corp., which manages the Trail's operations. "We now sell to an international clientele and a couples clientele that has enabled us to stay ahead of the curve as golf has suffered with (declining) participation."

Cannon was the first director of golf at Capitol Hill, the 54-hole Trail complex, with three distinct course-design styles in Prattville, just north of Montgomery. He arrived there in 1998 when it was still under construction. At that time, he said, the only businesses on that part of I-65 were a Christmas tree farm and a dairy farm.

"I was coming from Myrtle Beach at the time and thought this was the craziest idea I had ever heard of," Cannon recalled.

The Trail now spans 11 sites with 26 courses and 468 holes of golf. Last year, more than 500,000 rounds were played on the Trail, and in a typical year nearly half of the golfers come from out-of-state. While air service into Alabama is spotty, Cannon said more than half of out-of-staters fly in, many from long distances. He noted that one of SunBelt's top-10 markets each year is Orange County, Calif.

Robert Trent Jones believed in a "hard par, easy bogey" design philosophy, and that was reflected in much of the Trail design work done by Jones and architect Roger Rulewich. That philosophy suited Bronner and Bobby Vaughan, who founded SunBelt.

"They really wanted to build very, very challenging golf courses that would get highly rated," Cannon said. For the most part, they succeeded.

Their objective was common among many course developers in the 1990s, but in recent years there's been a shift toward building more playable courses that can be enjoyed by the majority of golfers who hit it short and crooked, while still providing a challenge to better players from the back tees.

"We are not ashamed at all to say our philosophy has changed dramatically," Cannon said. At the time, he was driving back from Point Clear, where a 36-hole renovation of the Lakewood facility is underway.

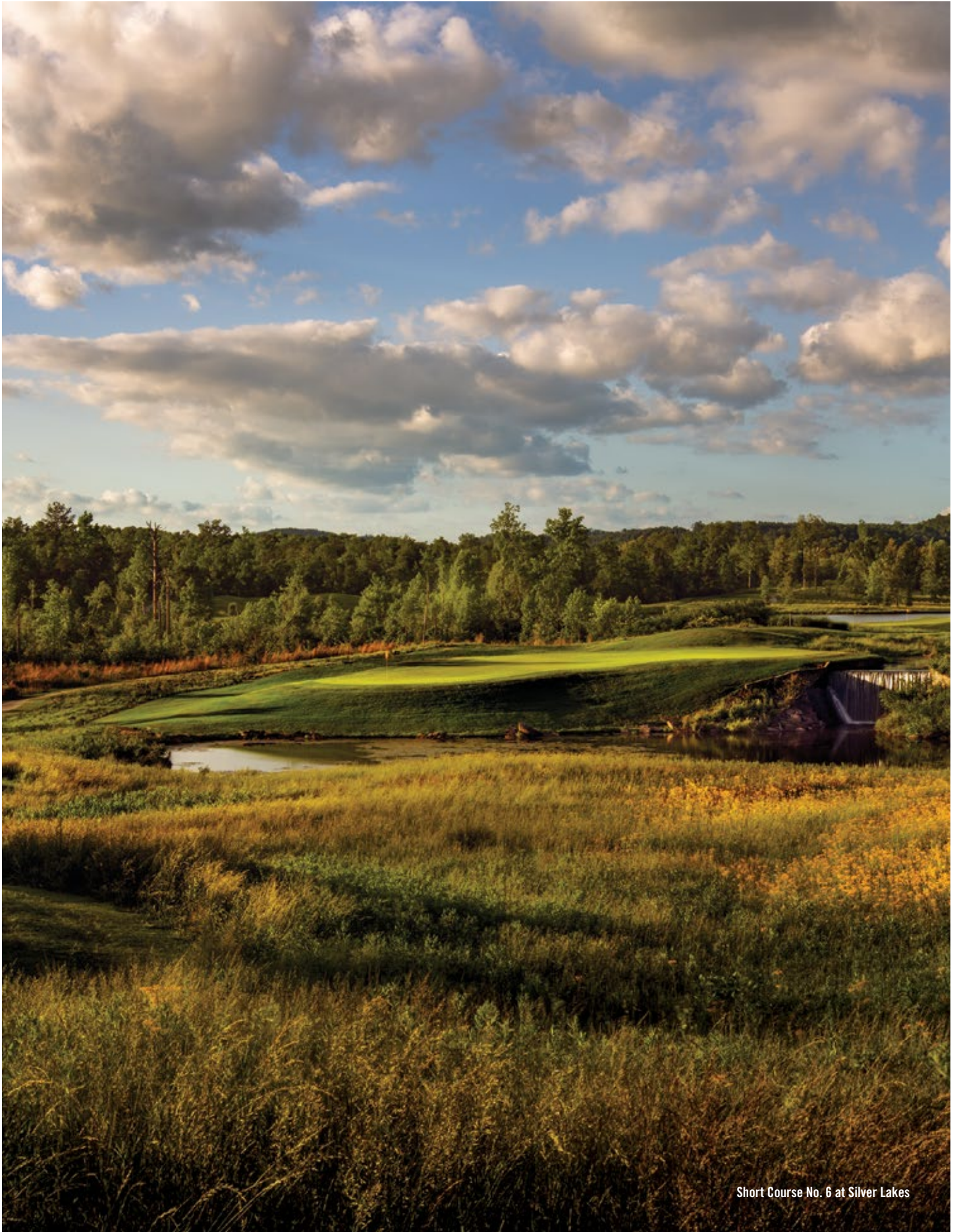
Now, he said, his team asks questions that include: "How can we give (players) lines of play that weren't available in the original design? How can we give the person who carries the ball 110 yards a way to play the holes that originally were very penal?... There are lines of play that weren't available before, and we dropped some greens that were sticking up in the air. There's not a falloff on every green into a water hazard or an eight-foot-deep bunker."

One thing the Trail got right from the outset was its par-3 courses. In fact, Bronner and SunBelt might have been ahead of their time. "We are way more successful on the short courses today than we were 10 years ago," Cannon said.

They were underutilized in the early years but are getting more use these days, he said, because of player-development programs, particularly in larger markets such as Birmingham and Mobile. Those programs should help generate some new local customers to complement all of the Trail customers arriving from outside of Alabama. ■



**Above:** Robert Trent Jones, Sr.



Short Course No. 6 at Silver Lakes

# PARDON OUR PROGRESS

----- RTJ RESORT COLLECTION ADDS NEW ROOMS & LUXURY OPTIONS -----

While RTJ's 25th anniversary celebrations were taking place in 2017, construction crews at the Trail's hotels and resorts were adding new rooms and upgrading its properties. Nearly half of the Trail's eight hotels received major renovations in 2017 to provide the level of luxury and hospitality RTJ guests desire. Two of these transformations will continue in 2018, resulting in name changes and enhanced amenities.

First opened in 1847, the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa's transformation started in late 2016 and is scheduled for completion in spring 2018. All of the guest rooms, meeting space, restaurants, spa, and other public areas are being transformed in phases to minimize disruption. By summer 2018, the Grand Hotel should be branded as part of Marriott's Autograph Collection and be known as the Grand Hotel Golf Resort & Spa. Enhancements to the Grand's two golf courses are part of the resort's transformation.

The Auburn/Opelika Marriott at Grand National started doubling the number of guest rooms in 2017 and will be adding a spa in 2018. Named one of the top golf resorts by the editors of *Golf Digest* in 2016 and 2017, the hotel will be rebranded as a Marriott resort in 2018. Marriott currently has less than 20 resorts

in North America. The new 95 guest rooms and three-story spa will offer golfers and other guests a great place to stay for relaxation.

Located overlooking the 17th fairway of the Senator course at RTJ Capitol Hill, the Montgomery/Prattville Marriott was the first hotel built directly on the RTJ Golf Trail. In 2017, the Marriott completely updated all of its guest rooms, meeting space, restaurant, and other public areas. The guest rooms have a more modern feel and incorporate golf into the interior design. For VIPs, the Marriott's Presidential Cottage offers exceptional lodging options unmatched in Alabama.

As construction comes to a close on these three properties, five additional RTJ hotels are available to golfers, leisure guests, and meeting planners. From golfing groups to a couple's getaway, these eight hotels and resorts exceed international luxury standards while offering local flavor. Ranked some of Marriott and Renaissance Hotels in North America for guest satisfaction, dining, spas, pools, meetings, and various hotel aspects, the RTJ Resort Collection offers close proximity to the golf course locations. As you make your tee times, here are eight hotel recommendations for your trip. Pleasant dreams and we look forward to seeing you on the course in the morning. ...»



The Grand Hotel



The Battle House

## MOBILE BAY REGION

### Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa

Point Clear, Alabama [www.marriottgrand.com](http://www.marriottgrand.com)

[www.facebook.com/thegrandhotel](https://www.facebook.com/thegrandhotel)

[www.twitter.com/marriottgrand](https://www.twitter.com/marriottgrand)

Since 1847, The Grand has maintained a gracious tradition of Southern hospitality on historic Mobile Bay. The Grand Hotel is a family-friendly historical hotel that is in the final stages of a massive transformation. Scheduled for completion in spring 2018, the resort will become part of the Autograph Collection as the Grand Hotel Golf Resort & Spa. The resort has received national honors from *Travel + Leisure*, *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Successful Meetings*, *Meetings Today*, *Southern Living*, and other national publications.

A schedule of activities and special weekends is particularly attractive to families. Groups appreciate the superlative meeting facilities. With 405 luxurious guest rooms and having some of Marriott's best spas, golf courses, and pools, the Grand Hotel is now grander than ever. Once private, these golf courses are now open to Grand Hotel guests and the general public.

The resort has 37,000 square feet of meeting space that was completely renovated. The Grand's 550 acres feature giant live oak trees, multiple beaches, and lush landscaping. A military salute and cannon firing takes place each day at 4 p.m. and is followed by afternoon tea in the hotel lobby. In addition to world-class golf and the 20,000-square-foot spa, the resort has a variety of activities including eight rubico tennis courts, a croquet lawn, horseshoes, bikes, kayaks, sailboats, and other watercraft for the guests' enjoyment.

For those wanting to own a piece of the Grand Hotel, Colony at the Grand offers upscale options overlooking Mobile Bay and the Azalea golf course. For more on the Colony, visit [www.colonyatthegrand.com](http://www.colonyatthegrand.com).

### Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel

Mobile, Alabama [www.renaissanceriverview.com](http://www.renaissanceriverview.com)

[www.facebook.com/riverviewplaza](https://www.facebook.com/riverviewplaza)

[www.twitter.com/riverviewplaza](https://www.twitter.com/riverviewplaza)

A prime downtown location with a covered walkway to the Mobile Convention Center makes the Renaissance Riverview Plaza a favorite for business guests. Renaissance Riverview Plaza, a Four Diamond Hotel, also is a short walk from the city's Carnival Museum, the Museum of Mobile, and the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center. Passengers on the Carnival cruise ship enjoy the park and cruise packages offered by the Renaissance Riverview.

Having undergone a major renovation, the 373 plush guest rooms are as popular as the hotel's spectacular views of Mobile Bay. The Harbor Room restaurant features exceptional cuisine with an emphasis on fresh seafood. Riverview Plaza features 32,000 square feet of versatile meeting, banquet, and exhibit space. Mobile is the home of the country's original Mardi Gras, and parades pass in front of the Renaissance Riverview Plaza during Carnival season. Each afternoon, a ship horn blows from the hotel to salute the city's maritime history and let downtown Mobile know the bar at the Renaissance Riverview is open for business.

Guests at all three Mobile Bay resorts have easy access to great golf at RTJ's Magnolia Grove. Creeks, marshlands, and lakes add to the challenge of Mobile's Magnolia Grove. The Falls, Crossings, and Short courses have all received national recognition from various golf publications.

### The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa

Mobile, Alabama [www.renaissancebattlehouse.com](http://www.renaissancebattlehouse.com)

[www.facebook.com/battlehouse](https://www.facebook.com/battlehouse)

[www.twitter.com/renbattlehouse](https://www.twitter.com/renbattlehouse)

Originally built in 1852 and closed in the mid-1970s, the Battle House in Mobile has been restored to all its original grandeur. The Battle House reopened in 2007 and was named as one of the "Top 500 Hotels in the World" by *Travel + Leisure* in 2015. Both the Battle House and its Trellis Room restaurant have received Four Diamond ratings from AAA. This pet-friendly hotel has also been named one of *National Geographic Traveler's* "Top Places to Stay" in North America and was named a favorite by Coastal Living.

The 238 gracious guest rooms, new spa, historic lobby, restaurant, and ballrooms make the Battle House the perfect urban retreat for business and leisure guests with an affinity for the finer things in life. The hotel has 35,000 square feet of meeting space and is connected to RSA Battle House Tower. Located directly on the parade route, Battle House is a great Mardi Gras choice.

On New Year's Eve, come witness MoonPie Over Mobile in a one-of-a-kind celebration. *Lagniappe* readers named the Battle House as the top hotel, spa, martini, bar bathroom, and event venue in Mobile. Join the afternoon cocktail ritual in the lobby as a bit of Mardi Gras spirit is shared each day.



## CENTRAL ALABAMA & MONTGOMERY REGION

### Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center

Montgomery, Alabama [www.renaissancemontgomery.com](http://www.renaissancemontgomery.com)

[www.facebook.com/renaissancemontgomeryhotel](https://www.facebook.com/renaissancemontgomeryhotel)

[www.twitter.com/renaissancemgm](https://www.twitter.com/renaissancemgm)

The Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center is a great cultural, culinary, and corporate hub for Alabama's capital city. This Four Diamond hotel features 345 luxurious rooms and suites, several restaurants and bars, and a European-style spa. Located near the Alabama River, Renaissance Montgomery is a part of the city's downtown revitalization. For concerts, plays, and general entertainment, the hotel's 1,800-seat Montgomery Performing Arts Centre is quickly becoming the city's social hot spot.

The Renaissance Montgomery includes a newly renovated and expanded convention center. The hotel complex has more than 140,000 square feet of meeting space and features some of the latest technology available for meetings. The Spa at Renaissance Montgomery remained one of the top ranked Renaissance spas in North America last year. The Renaissance Montgomery is approximately 10 minutes from RTJ Capitol Hill.

The Renaissance Montgomery offers shuttle service from the hotel to RTJ Capitol Hill. Reserve the shuttle through our front desk. After the sun goes down, enjoy live music and local craft beer each night in our Exchange Bar or walk two blocks to a Biscuits baseball game.

### Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill

Prattville, Alabama [www.marriottcapitolhill.com](http://www.marriottcapitolhill.com)

[www.facebook.com/marriottcapitolhill](https://www.facebook.com/marriottcapitolhill)

[www.twitter.com/marriottcaphill](https://www.twitter.com/marriottcaphill)

Minutes from downtown Montgomery, the Marriott hotel and its 96 guest rooms recently completed a massive renovation. The 74 spacious guest rooms located in the main lodge have been upgraded in 2017. Two eight-room luxury villas have living areas for informal gatherings and are ideal for golfing groups.

The 10,000-square-foot Presidential Cottage features five executive suites, private balconies, a lush garden, and a private heliport. The hotel was the first to be built directly on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail courses and overlooks the 54 holes of championship golf at Capitol Hill. *Golfweek* readers named RTJ Capitol Hill the #2 site for public golf in the country.

The Marriott's Oak Tavern offers dining with an extraordinary view overlooking the 17th Fairway of the Senator Course. Indoor and outdoor dining options are available for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The hotel features 20,000 square feet of event space, including 13 venues, a new ballroom and pre-function area, and a covered terrace. RTJ Capitol Hill will host the Symetra Tour's Guardian Championship in September 2018, and the Marriott Prattville is the ideal place for the event.

Historic Prattville has seen tremendous growth since RTJ Capitol Hill opened in 1999. Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World and several other retail centers are near the hotel, along with a variety of restaurants. Get ready for your next round of golf by studying the Senator's 17th hole from your room or consult with others over drinks and dinner in the Marriott's Oak Tavern. Listen for the hotel's cotton gin whistle to officially start happy hour.

### Auburn Marriott Opelika Hotel & Conference Center at Grand National

Opelika, Alabama [www.marriottgrandnational.com](http://www.marriottgrandnational.com)

[www.facebook.com/marriottgrandnational](https://www.facebook.com/marriottgrandnational)

[www.twitter.com/GrandNatl\\_Hotel](https://www.twitter.com/GrandNatl_Hotel)

Named an Editors' Choice Golf Resort in 2016 and 2017 by *Golf Digest*, the Marriott is the ideal stay for golfers playing RTJ Grand National. The Four Diamond hotel completed a massive renovation in 2016 with a golf theme and doubled the number of rooms in 2017. A resort pool complex, outdoor bar, and a tennis complex opened in 2013. Once the hotel's new spa opens in spring 2018, the property will officially become a Marriott resort.

Named the #1 location for public golf in the country by *GolfWorld* readers, the Auburn Marriott Opelika is situated perfectly for golf. Offering both a great hotel and an upscale residential option, it is easy to see why *U.S. News & World Report* named the Auburn-Opelika area one of the top places to retire for golf lovers. Situated just 10 minutes from Auburn University, in the quaint historic town of Opelika, the Auburn Marriott Opelika offers the finest accommodations in the area.

This nationally renowned retreat is the region's premier golf destination and lakeside resort with 54 holes of Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail golf. The majority of guest rooms in this luxury hotel and resort overlook Grand National's golf course, the pools, tennis complexes, and Lake Saugahatchee. The hotel has 114 guest rooms and 15 luxury suites. Paying tribute to the area's railroad history, a guest conductor is selected each afternoon to blow the hotel's train whistle and begin happy hour at the Splash Bar or Fairways Tavern.

This hotel has 15,000 square feet of technology-equipped event space, a business center, and a 96-seat amphitheater. For golfers wanting to move to the area, National Village offers upscale homes and cottages adjacent to Grand National. From a primary residence to second homes, National Village has great options and golf waiting for you. For more on this upscale Trail residential option, visit [www.nationalvillage.com](http://www.nationalvillage.com).



Montgomery Marriott Prattville



Renaissance Montgomery



Auburn Marriott Opelika



Renaissance Ross Bridge

## NORTH ALABAMA & BIRMINGHAM REGION

### Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa

Birmingham, Alabama [www.rossbridgeresort.com](http://www.rossbridgeresort.com)

[www.facebook.com/rossbridgeresort](https://www.facebook.com/rossbridgeresort)

[www.twitter.com/rossbridgehotel](https://www.twitter.com/rossbridgehotel)

Renaissance Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa is designed to provide a unique environment of stylish comfort and sophistication. *Golf Digest* editors named Ross Bridge one of their favorite golf resorts in North America in 2016 and 2017. *Travel + Leisure* has named Ross Bridge “One of the Top 500 Hotels in the World.” This Four Diamond resort has 259 guest rooms, with balconies overlooking the fourth longest golf course in the world at 8,191 yards from the tips. The resort also has 11 spacious suites for an extra level of comfort and indulgence. Between Ross Bridge and nearby Oxmoor Valley, golfers have access to 54 holes of golf at this luxury resort. Listen for the bagpiper playing each evening at sunset and enjoy a Scottish tradition with a Southern twist.

Ross Bridge offers luxurious pampering in a 12,000-square-foot European spa. While warm stone massages are most popular, the Spa at Ross Bridge offers a variety of body treatment for pampering and recovery. Renaissance Hotels has named Ross Bridge as one of their top spas.

The Four Diamond resort has multiple restaurants including fine dining with a Mediterranean influence in Brock’s. The Clubhouse was named one of *Golf Digest*’s “Favorite 19th Holes.” For meetings or special events, Ross Bridge has 20,000 square feet of function space ranging from a large ballroom to a smaller, distinctive boardroom. The resort consistently remains among the top Renaissance hotels in the world for guest satisfaction and overall style.

In addition to the honors from *Golf Digest* as a top golf resort, *Birmingham Magazine* readers named Ross Bridge the top hotel, golf experience, spa, and staycation location. With nine miles of cart path, golfers playing RTJ Ross Bridge must use a cart during their round. If you need to stretch your legs afterwards, ask for a walking/running map at the front desk.

### Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa

Florence, Alabama [www.marriottshoals.com](http://www.marriottshoals.com)

[www.facebook.com/marriottshoals](https://www.facebook.com/marriottshoals)

[www.twitter.com/marriottshoals](https://www.twitter.com/marriottshoals)

Overlooking the Tennessee River and historic Wilson Dam in Florence, Alabama, the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa continues to be the Marriott leader for exceptional golf, spas, dining, hotel rooms, and guest satisfaction. The 199 guest rooms, including seven suites, have private balconies and waterfront views. The Four Diamond hotel features Alabama’s only revolving restaurant and more than 30,000 square feet of versatile meeting space.

The Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa is pet friendly and a short distance from two Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail courses – Fighting Joe and Schoolmaster. The Fighting Joe course was named among the top 10 new courses by *Golf Magazine* and *Travel + Leisure Golf*. The Schoolmaster course opened in 2005 and approaches 8,000 yards. In addition to great golf, the Shoals area is internationally known for its rich musical heritage.

Swampers Bar & Grille, located inside the hotel, celebrates the area’s rich musical heritage. Artists such as Rolling Stones, Cher, Etta James, Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, and hundreds more recorded in the Shoals and are featured in the documentary *Muscle Shoals*. The area still has many songwriters and recording studios. For upscale dining, the revolving 360 Grille restaurant offers remarkable cuisine and amazing views of the Tennessee River. The 6,000-square-foot European-style spa and salon helps make the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa the premier resort in the Tennessee River Valley.

Love great food and music? Head to 360 Grille, fine dining with breathtaking views of Florence and a sound track recorded in the Shoals. For live music and a more casual feel, Swampers Bar & Grille is a mini-museum decorated with historic photos, gold records, and other Muscle Shoals memorabilia. Regional musicians provide the entertainment. ■





# ON EXHIBIT: ALABAMA ART CELEBRATED GLOBALLY

Praised internationally for his unique style of art, this acclaimed artist from Alabama simply goes by one name, Nall.

Dividing his time between Alabama and the French Riviera, Nall's artwork has been showcased in galleries and museums around the globe. Locally, two Alabama universities recently honored Nall and his artwork by opening permanent exhibitions. Troy University created the Nall Museum on its Troy campus, overlooking the Janice Hawkins Cultural Park. In Tuscaloosa, The University of Alabama established a permanent Nall Art Gallery in the Carmichael Hall's College of Education in the newly renovated rotunda.

Golfers playing the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail will find Nall artwork throughout the eight hotels in the RTJ Resort Collection. From "Alabama's Renaissance" depicted in downtown Montgomery to images of massive oaks at the historic Grand Hotel in Point Clear, all of the art in RTJ Resort Collection properties was created by Alabama artists. These works include massive mosaics, whimsical sculptures, inspiring photography, and intricate quilting, all worthy of being displayed in fine museums and galleries.

The gifted artist grew up in Troy, Alabama, and began drawing arts and crafts at his family's Murphree Park at just four years old. A graduate of the University of Alabama, Nall was awarded top score entrance at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Surrounded by painters, musicians, and writers, he excelled among his contemporaries. At that point, he was mentored by Spanish Surrealist, Salvador Dali, who advised him to "Draw from life, draw, again and again." Nall was also inspired by American psychedelic art, fauvism, impressionism, and Japanese wash drawings but then returned to basic black and white drawing and concentrating on building a solid artistic foundation on drawing skills.

Having exhibited his works all over the United States and Europe since 1971, Nall returned to his roots as artist in residence at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where students had the opportunity to apprentice in his on-campus studio and saw his retrospective at the Sarah Moody Gallery.

In 2000, Nall was the curator for "Alabama Art," an exhibit of 13 Alabama Artists, with the aid of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Art and the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Nall compiled the works and did the layout for the book titled "Alabama Art" published by Black Belt Press. This book won the Mary Ellen Lopresti ARLIS/Southeast Publishing Award for "Best Art Book" published that year in the Southeastern U.S.A. After serving two semesters as artist-in-residence at Troy University, Nall was awarded a Doctorate Honoris Causa from Troy University, Alabama. In July 2000, Nall created an illustration for the 51st Monaco Red Cross Ball per the request of H.S.H. Prince Albert of Monaco.

In 2016, Troy University opened the International Art Center with the Fred Nall Hollis Museum. The gallery at the University of Alabama's Carmichael Hall opened in 2017. Nall has worked extensively with the Retirement Systems of Alabama and its resorts to showcase the "Alabama Art" collection. Living in his home state of Alabama, in 2005 he completed building his studio in Fairhope, Alabama, where he invites apprentices to work with him, and spends his summers in France at the N.A.L.L. Art Association. He has been inducted into the Alabama Artists Hall of Fame in Decatur. ■

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on Nall and Alabama Art, email [artistnall@gmail.com](mailto:artistnall@gmail.com) or call 251.928.2729. Many of the pieces on display are available for purchase. **Gallery open to the public** at 414 Equality Street, Fairhope, Alabama 36532.

**ON DISPLAY** From golf balls and Monarch butterflies hanging in the Grand Hotel guest rooms (above left) to a museum at Troy University dedicated to his work, Nall's artwork is exhibited across Alabama and beyond.

## ARTISTS FEATURED IN THE RTJ RESORT COLLECTION

*Judith Amanda, Jennifer Antoline, Margaret Barber, Ann Mottershead Betak, Sloane Bibb, Sue Blackshear, Xander Booker, Julia Bradshaw, Neal Brantley, Kyle Braund, Edward Brummal, Chip Cooper, Nan Cunningham, J J Gaudel, Sybil Gibson, Sarita Gish, Russell Goodloe, Nancy Goodman, Erin Fitzhugh Gregory, Jim Gunter, Anton Haardt, Amber Hall, Mike Handley, Baba Hendricks, Marty Hoerr, Stacey Howell, Carrie Johnson, Robert Harold*

*Johnston III, Robert Johnston, Ryan Clifford Keller, Mary Riser Kennedy, Christy Rhodes Kirk, Bruce Larsen, Charlie Lucas, Michael Mastro, Betty Sue Matthews, Jim Morris, Maya Morland, Christopher Moses, Haardt Moses, Herbert "Mannie" Pair, Heather Pettersen, Donna Pickens, Tigjo Price, Barbara Reed, Bradley Robertson, Natalyn Havenick Rose, Conrad and Janice Ross, Jayne Rushin, Stephen Savage, Kate Seawell, Michael Simpson, David M. Spears, Joan White-Spunner, Susan Starr, Steve Strickland, George Taylor,*

*Les Thompson, Langley Tolbert, Annie Tolliver, Lynda Smith Touart, Melissa Tubbs, Mary Catherine Watson, Susan Downing White, Dave Willmart, Devlin Wilson, and Robert Zimmerman.*

**Artists** Paul Looney, Ann Morland, Kate Seawell, Jimmy Lee Sudduth, and Yvonne Wells also have works on consignment in the Renaissance Montgomery. **Deceased artists** in permanent collection include: Steve Skidmore, Jimmy Lee Sudduth, Mose T, and Flemming Tyler Wilson.



# RELAXING

· AFTER YOUR ROUND ·

SPA TRAIL OFFERS GOLFERS RECOVERY  
AND RELAXATION OPTIONS



First came great golf in 1992. Next, luxury 4 diamond hotels were added. Now the latest hospitality advances in Alabama come from world-class spas – five of them with one more under construction – and the creation of the Spa Trail on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

“From traditional warm stone massages to red carpet ready facials, the RTJ Spa Trail features six spas across Alabama offering innovative treatments in exquisite settings,” said Taylor Fields, Corporate Director of Spa for the RTJ Resort Collection. “From therapeutic massages to pampering treatments, the Spa Trail is ideal for individual golfers, couples traveling together, or for groups of friends coming to play golf in Alabama.” The spas are located in Marriott, Autograph, and Renaissance Hotels along the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail: Point Clear, Mobile, Montgomery, Hoover, Florence, and Opelika (opening summer 2018).

“With nearly 80,000 square feet of space collectively, the Spa Trail locations feature 49 treatment rooms offering relaxing and rejuvenating experiences for our guests,” said Fields. “From the shores of Mobile Bay to the edge of the Tennessee River, the Spa Trail features some of the country’s best spas. The Spa Trail features

the two main attributes of the renowned RTJ Golf Trail: quality and value,” he said. “The combination of great golf, hotels, and spas is appealing to both leisure travelers and business meeting groups.”

As part of the Spa Trail, an annual RTJ Spa Trail Card offers discounts on spa services, hotel rooms, dining and retail shopping. A complimentary glass of wine and various perks such as hotel accommodations and food and beverage discounts are additional values offered to Spa Trail Card members. The RTJ Spa Trail Card costs \$50 and comes with a \$20 gift card which can be used in any of the six spas. “Guests having spa treatments at each of the Spa Trail’s locations will earn a free treatment of their choice at any of the spas,” said Fields. The Spa Trail cards are sold at the individual spas and are good for the entire calendar year,” he said. ■

#### THE SPA AT THE GRAND

**Location:** Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa in Point Clear, AL - outside of Fairhope along Mobile Bay

**Closest RTJ golf facility:** RTJ Lakewood

**Spa size:** 20,000 square feet including indoor pool and fitness center

**Number of treatment rooms:** 12 treatment rooms plus 12 stations in the salon for hair, manicure, and pedicure services.

**Hours of operation:** 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and Friday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Phone:** 251.990.6385

**Website:** thegrandhotelspa.com

**Signature spa treatments:** Signature Aromatic Warm Stone Massage, the Babor Body Journey, Grand Spa Babor Facial, The Signature Ultimate Grand Nail Experience

**What makes the spa unique/world class:**

Bathed in the charm and beauty of the South and serenaded by the timeless rhythm of the sea, The Spa at The Grand Hotel invites you to step into a world of gracious hospitality and luxurious service cocooned in 550 of the most beautiful acres in Alabama. We are devoted to your complete well being and provide a serene environment designed to relax, revitalize, and rejuvenate the mind, the body and the spirit. Allow yourself to drift gently for an hour, a day, a week, as we take you on the ultimate journey to renewed energy, joy and health.

**Most requested service:** Aromatic Warm Stone Massage and the Grand Spa Babor Facial

**Most unusual service:** ASHIATSU Barefoot Massage

#### THE SPA AT THE BATTLE HOUSE

**Location:** The Battle House Renaissance Hotel & Spa in downtown Mobile, AL

**Closest RTJ golf facility:** RTJ Magnolia Grove

**Spa size:** 10,000 square feet

**Number of treatment rooms:** 8 treatment rooms plus 4 stations in the salon for hair, manicure, and pedicure services.

**Hours of operation:** 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Phone:** 251.338.5700

**Website:** thebattlehousespa.com

**Signature spa treatments:** Signature Aromatic Warm Stone Massage, Signature Organic Facial, Signature Urban Foot Rejuvenation

**What makes the spa unique/world-class:**

The Spa at The Battle House is truly your urban escape. This lavishly decorated retreat is located at the top of Mobile’s historic Battle House Hotel, and offers spectacular views of downtown and Mobile Bay. Delight in the exquisite Venetian plaster ceilings swirling with the fiery colors of a sunset... allow the peaceful sounds of the water walls to wash over you, taking you inward, away from the hustle of the day. Daydream in front of the Zen fire pit or just sip a soothing cup of tea. The Spa at The Battle House is all about relaxation... your relaxation... a place where time stands still and the world revolves exclusively around you.

**Most requested service:** Urban Relaxation Massage

**Most unusual service:** Soothing Dead Sea Mud Masque

#### THE SPA AT ROSS BRIDGE

**Location:** Renaissance Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa in Hoover, AL – outside of Birmingham

**Closest RTJ golf facility:** RTJ Ross Bridge

**Spa size:** 12,000 square feet

**Number of treatment rooms:** 10 treatment rooms plus 7 stations in the salon for hair, manicure, and pedicure services.

**Hours of operation:** 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week

**Phone:** 205.949.3041

**Website:** sparossbridge.com

**Signature spa treatments:** Signature Massage, Facial and Pedicure, Lavender Heaven Body Treatment with Hot Oil Scalp Massage and Back Exfoliation

**What makes the spa unique/world-class:**

With the backdrop of familiar tunes being played by a lone Highland piper, you would believe in an instant that you have been transported to the misty moors of Scotland. This sweet melody signals the end of day and the transition to peace and relaxation. And so it is at The Spa at Ross Bridge where your peace and relaxation is our ultimate goal.

**Most requested service:** Ross Bridge Signature Massage and Facial Therapies offering 50 and 80 minute unique experiences to relax the mind and calm the senses.

**Most unusual service:** Ashiatsu Therapy using an Asian foot pressure technique to achieve deep pressure to promote a healthy wellbeing.



The Spa at Montgomery

## THE SPA AT MONTGOMERY

**Location:** Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center in Montgomery, AL

**Closest RTJ golf facility:** RTJ Capitol Hill

**Spa size:** 9,000 square feet

**Number of treatment rooms:** 7 treatment rooms, 6 stations in the salon for hair, manicure, and pedicure services.

**Hours of operation:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and by appointment only on Sunday-Monday

**Phone:** 334.481.5210

**Website:** spaatmontgomery.com

**Signature spa treatments:** Therapeutic Custom Massage, Resurfacing Pedicure, Glycoderm Facial

### What makes the spa unique/world-class:

Bali, Bombay, Napoli, Rio and Singapore – what a trip. It is our pleasure to create for you a mosaic spa experience with the best of the best services from all over the world without your ever having to leave the comforts of our beautifully appointed Montgomery Spa. Partake in the Beautifying Body wrap or the Passport to Relaxation Package and let your imagination take wing as we transport your senses on a worldly sensory journey.

**Most requested service:** Therapeutic Custom Massage and Aveda Signature Facial

**Most unusual service:** Exfoliage Massage

## THE SPA AT THE SHOALS

**Location:** Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa in Florence, AL

**Closest RTJ golf facility:** RTJ Shoals

**Spa size:** 6,000 square feet

**Number of treatment rooms:** 4 treatment rooms plus 7 stations in the salon for hair, manicure, and pedicure services.

**Hours of operation:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Closed Monday.

**Phone:** 256.246.3696

**Website:** TBD

**Signature spa treatments:** Shoals Signature Nourishing Body Treatment, Shoals Signature Massage

### What makes the spa unique/world-class:

A rare and beautiful pearl, nestled on the banks of the Tennessee River, The Spa at The Shoals is ready to create for you a wonderfully memorable Spa experience. Our intimate setting and caring associates will whisk away your every care and create for you spa services that speak to your personal needs and goals. From our luxurious couples room to soaking in our thermal waters, taking care of what you need is what we do best.

**Most requested service:** 80 min. Shoals Signature Massage & Shoals Custom Couples Massage

**Most unusual service:** Microdermabrasion with Customized Facial

## THE SPA AT GRAND NATIONAL

**Opening Date:** Summer 2018

**Location:** Auburn/Opelika Marriott Resort & Spa

**Nearest RTJ Location:** RTJ Grand National

**Spa size:** 20,000 sq. ft.

**Number of treatment rooms:** 8 treatment rooms and 8 salon stations for hair, manicure, and pedicure services.

**Hours of operation:** TBD

**Phone:** 334.741.9292

**Signature spa treatments:** TBD

### What makes the spa unique/world class:

The outside flora and fauna weaves into the interior, and the decor is inspired by the naturally occurring elements of the “Earth, Water, Air and Fire” found in the natural surroundings of the Alabama landscape. A relaxed luxury retreat inspired by a tree house in an enchanted forest is the best way to describe the spa environment. A place to nourish your body and mind featuring a focal fireplace and tall windows surrounded by comfortable seating, natural materials, hanging plants, swings, and an array of body products displayed around a welcoming reception desk made from a local tree.





---

Some golfers want to live on the course and now they can. The residential developments associated with the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail in Opelika and Fairhope offer upscale housing options adjacent to golf courses. Both award-winning communities offer expansive amenity options at affordable prices, but golf remains front and center. And now the courses can be right outside your back door.

# RTJLIVING

GOLF TRAIL'S RESORT COMMUNITIES OFFER LUXURY LIVING OPTIONS

Between Colony at the Grand in Fairhope along Mobile Bay and National Village in Auburn/Opelika next to RTJ Grand National, your choices of residential options continue to grow faster than the 419 Bermuda grass planted along the fairways. In addition to the golf course lots overlooking the Azalea (Fairhope) and Lake (Opelika) courses, other residential options include golf cottages, estate homes, and condominiums.

Whether you want the spirit of a SEC university town or a more coastal feel with a flair for the arts, both options are covered. Collectively, they offer 90

holes of world-class golf, 18 tennis courts, 4 pickle ball courts, eight pools, endless miles of hiking and biking trails, great restaurants, shopping, and much more.

The residential communities associated with the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail offer unprecedented access to great golf and resort amenities all year long. National Village in Opelika and Colony at the Grand in Fairhope have very strong sales and are entering new phases of development. Both communities are adding new neighborhoods featuring a variety of single family home options. ...»

## COLONY AT THE GRAND

Fairhope/Point Clear, Alabama » [www.colonyatthegrand.com](http://www.colonyatthegrand.com)

### MAJESTIC OAKS. RESORT LIVING. GRAND TRADITIONS.

Perhaps the only thing more spectacular than the new single-family homes at Colony at the Grand are the community's majestic oak trees. From families with young children to retirees looking for a coastal climate, Colony at the Grand has both options and homes come with a membership to the historic Lakewood Club.

Golfers can work on their game at the Lakewood Club's new practice facility, the Grand Golf Experience, and play two RTJ courses onsite. Families can dive into the club's resort pools, play tennis on grass and clay courts, then squeeze in a workout at the fitness center, all within walking distance of your home. Looking for less strenuous options? Set sail into Mobile Bay, watch spectacular sunsets, celebrate happy hour at the historic Grand Hotel, or browse in Fairhope's boutiques.

Since opening in 1847, The Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa has been the Queen of Southern Resorts, and the property is currently undergoing a

transformation to elevate guest experiences while remaining true to Southern Hospitality roots. History lovers will enjoy the daily military salute and cannon firing followed by a traditional afternoon tea in the Grand's Lobby. Culinary lovers can join the monthly culinary weekend classes and enjoy great steaks and seafood all year long.

Exploring the Colony at the Grand doesn't end at the front gate of this private community. The quality of life at Point Clear/Fairhope is legendary. Explore the boutiques, galleries, and restaurants of Fairhope or spend your day along the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail. The Fairhope/Point Clear area has gained notice in the *Wall Street Journal* as one of the Top 10 places in the U.S. to retire. Colony at the Grand is an easy drive from these Southern cities: New Orleans (166 miles), Baton Rouge (224 miles), Jackson (209 miles), Birmingham (266 miles), Mobile (23 miles), and Atlanta (336 miles). Perhaps it is time you take a look.

» TO LEARN MORE contact Colony at the Grand at 251.990.9951 or visit [www.colonyatthegrand.com](http://www.colonyatthegrand.com).



**COLONY AT THE GRAND** offers both single family home and condominium options:

**BATTLES TRACE** Neatly sitting along a 150-year-old grove of oak trees, Battles Trace is now in its fourth phase of development with three new home designs from the \$300s. These upscale homes offer a great sense of community and access to the Lakewood Club and its amenities. Starting in the mid \$300's. Additional lake lots to be offered in 2018.

**WATERSHED SOUTH** Overlooking the Azalea golf course, Watershed South features three-bedroom,

two-bath homes on the main level that define sophisticated, modern living, and coastal southern living in every way. Priced from the \$600's.

**AZALEA** The Azalea neighborhood features six lots overlooking the 10th hole on the Azalea Course at the Lakewood Club. These craftsman coastal homes feature great porches and the latest designs focused on luxury and relaxation. The first home in Azalea was the featured home during the Baldwin County Parade of Homes and has been entered in the NAHB Sales & Marketing Awards for Excellence in Architecture. Priced from the \$600's.

**BAYVIEW** Featuring 56 units, Bayview overlooks Sweetwater Lake on the hotel's historic grounds. The Bayview condominiums offer a breathtaking panorama at every floor, oak-draped parks, a lake, and the Azalea and Dogwood courses. Great views and low maintenance make these units popular for people on the go. Priced from the high \$300's.

**GRAND MANOR** An addition to the Grand Manor neighborhood in Lakewood will be 3 duplexes which emulate the homes built there in the 70s and 80s but modernized to today's trends and finishes. Priced from the mid \$800's.

## NATIONAL VILLAGE

Auburn/Opelika, Alabama » [www.nationalvillage.com](http://www.nationalvillage.com)

### SPECTACULAR HOMES. AUBURN TRADITIONS.

RTJ Grand National has quickly become a favorite among both professional and amateur golfers. The three courses at Grand National are easily accessible to nearby National Village. This RTJ golf community skirts the 1500-acre, 54-hole golf facility, including the Lakes course played on the PGA TOUR along Lake Saugahatchee. A planned 700-acre resort community, National Village offers three distinct neighborhood options with a fourth opening in summer 2018. It will be a quaint hamlet of golf cottages with close proximity to the amenities of the hotel, private fishing lakes, and 10 miles of walking and biking trails, starting in the low \$200s. From second-home buyers to retirees, National Village residents typically love golf and have a strong admiration for Auburn University.

The on-site Auburn Marriott Opelika Hotel & Conference Center at Grand National has 129 renovated guest rooms and was named one of the top golf

resorts in 2016 by the editors of *Golf Digest*. The hotel's outdoor resort pool complex and bar have been very popular with National Village residents. When not on the golf course or in the pool, look for our residents on the tennis and pickle ball courts. With both cardio and weight training equipment, consider the hotel's fitness center as your personal gym. The hotel and golf courses also overlook a 600-acre lake. Auburn University offers a variety of athletic and cultural programs within a short drive from National Village.

The Auburn/Opelika area was named one of the "Top 10 Places to Retire for Golf" by *US News & World Report*. Readers of *Golf World* named Opelika the #1 site for public golf in the country. *Golf Digest* named the RTJ Trail the top value for golf in the country and number eight for quality. National Village is an easy drive from these Southern cities: Atlanta (95 miles), Birmingham (112 miles), Chattanooga (215 miles), Mobile (214 miles), and Montgomery (57 miles). ■

» FOR MORE INFORMATION contact National Village at 334.749.8165 or visit [www.nationalvillage.com](http://www.nationalvillage.com).



**NATIONAL VILLAGE** offers four distinct neighborhood options:

**EAGLE BEND** Wonderfully designed and finished, three-bedroom craftsman style golf cottages with hardwood floors, Hardi-Plank siding, gas fireplaces, granite counters in kitchens and bathrooms, 9-foot ceilings, and so much more. Lots overlooking hole 4 of the RTJ Grand National Lake course are now available. The Cottages at Eagle Bend offer seven different home styles with floor plans ranging from 1,216 to almost 1,800 square feet. Prices start in the high \$200's.

**QUAIL RIDGE** The perfect blend of arts and crafts and cottage designs, these three and four-bedroom homes are in the newest neighborhood at National Village. This neighborhood opened in 2016 and offers a variety of plans. The National Village trail surrounds the rear perimeter of Quail Ridge and is located near a National Village post office. Pricing starting in the mid \$300's.

**STONELAKE** Every home in Stonelake is unique, with floor plans ranging from 2,600 to almost 3,700 square feet. High ceilings and custom trim work adds drama while screened porches,

decks and outdoor kitchens invite gatherings. The original homes in National Village, this neighborhood is sold out.

**EAGLE TRAIL** Offering Craftsman style cottages on and off the golf course. Prices starting in the mid \$300's.



# WEAVER WINS GUARDIAN CHAMPIONSHIP & EARNS LPGA CARD

Ohio's Lindsey Weaver had nine top 10 finishes coming into the Guardian Championship. She had knocked on the door so many times on the Symetra Tour in 2017, but finally busted through on Sunday, September 24 at RTJ Capitol Hill's Senator Course. Shooting a 4-under, 68 for the day, Weaver won her first event by one-stroke. She finished with a 3-day total of 12-under, 204 to best China's Yu Liu. The tournament was sponsored by Guardian Credit Union, a local Montgomery financial institution.

With the win, Weaver pocketed the \$15,000 first-place check and moves from ninth on the Volvik Race for the Card money list up to eighth on the money list. She ended the 2017 season at seventh on the money list, earning her LPGA Tour card for 2018. Weaver finished her rookie year on the Symetra Tour with 11 top 10 finishes and the one win at the Guardian Championship.

"It's awesome, it was good to have a solid final-round because sometimes when I have been in contention, I have puttered back a bit," said Weaver. "It feels really good to get the job done and get a win out of it." At the Guardian Championship, Weaver entered the final-round four shots off the lead and made two birdies and two bogeys on her outward nine. She really turned it on over the final seven holes.

Weaver made a 20-foot birdie on 12, a 15 foot birdie on 15, and then chipped in for birdie on hole 16 to move into the lead. "Hole 12 was a tough pin placement, and I hit a 6-iron into the green and that putt was a bonus," said Weaver, who played her final three years of college golf at Arizona. "My putt on 15 was moving a little quick so I was happy it hit the hole and dropped and on 16 I was off the

green and was over my chip and I knew I could make it. It was uphill and I gave it a pretty aggressive approach and it went in. It was awesome."

She took the lead briefly with the chip-in. While she tee'd on 17, Liu made a 10-foot birdie putt on 16 to even the score at 12-under. Both Weaver and Liu made par on the par-5 17th. On 18, Weaver hit her approach to 30-feet and pin high. She left the birdie putt about 8-feet short and nailed the par putt to stay at 12-under. Liu then came up short and on the wrong tier of the 18th green and had a 35-foot putt for the win. Unfortunately, she three-putted to finish second.

"I did the same thing with my putt, I left it 8-feet short and made it," said Weaver. "I was terrified over that putt, and I thought it was for second place, but the cards fell at the right time for me. The money list is definitely in the back of my mind, but my dad keeps telling me that there is no bad outcome. If I'm on the Symetra Tour next year that's great, if I'm on the LPGA, that's great too." With her strong finish for the season, she will be competing against other LPGA professionals who had strong career starts on Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. ■

"I was terrified over that putt, and I thought it was for second place, but the cards fell at the right time for me. The money list is definitely in the back of my mind, but my dad keeps telling me that there is no bad outcome. If I'm on the Symetra Tour next year that's great, if I'm on the LPGA, that's great too."

## PROFESSIONAL GOLF IN ALABAMA

"This was our 20th year in a row that women's professional golf has been played on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail," said John Cannon, president of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. "When the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail opened 25 years ago, we wanted to make Alabama a golf destination. Not only have we had nearly 12 million rounds of golf, we have seen legendary women win on the RTJ Trail including Lorena Ochoa, Se Ri Pak, Karrie Webb, Paula Creamer, Christina Kim, Stacy Lewis, Lexi Thompson, Ariya Jutanugarn, and several others." The PGA TOUR and PGA Champions Tour also have played tournaments along the RTJ Golf Trail over the years.

The Symetra Tour's Guardian Championship will be played again in 2018 at RTJ Capitol Hill in Prattville. "We are excited to be a part of the women's golf tradition in Alabama," said Guardian Credit Union CEO Heath Harrell. "As the local credit union, we thrive on community events, and the Guardian Championship promises

great things for everyone involved. Guardian is looking forward to the partnership with Robert Trent Jones and the golfing community."

In 2018, the Guardian Championship will be played September 21-23 and offer a purse of \$100,000 with the winner taking home \$15,000. The top 10 players on the Symetra Tour's Volvik Race for the Card money list at the end of the season earn LPGA Tour membership for 2019.

"We are grateful to partner with Guardian to keep professional women's golf in Alabama," said Chief Business Officer, Mike Nichols from the Symetra Tour. "This area has played such an important role in the tradition of women's golf. Lexi Thompson and Ariya Jutanugarn both had their first LPGA wins here in Prattville and have gone on to become international golf sensations, ranking among the Top 5 in the Rolex Women's Golf World Rankings. Now, we are bringing the future stars of the LPGA to the River Region, and we know the community will embrace them and take pride in their success when they reach the LPGA."



## A VISITOR'S GUIDE TO THE TRAIL »

Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail is a collection of 468 holes of championship golf on 11 sites across Alabama. Most are near an interstate or federal highway and directions are easily marked by green highway signs.

The eight Resort Collection hotels on the Trail all fly the Marriott or Renaissance flags and are top in their class for luxury, golf, and spa experiences.

The Wall Street Journal said the Trail **"MAY BE THE BIGGEST BARGAIN IN THE COUNTRY"** and The New York Times called the Trail **"SOME OF THE BEST PUBLIC GOLF ON EARTH."**

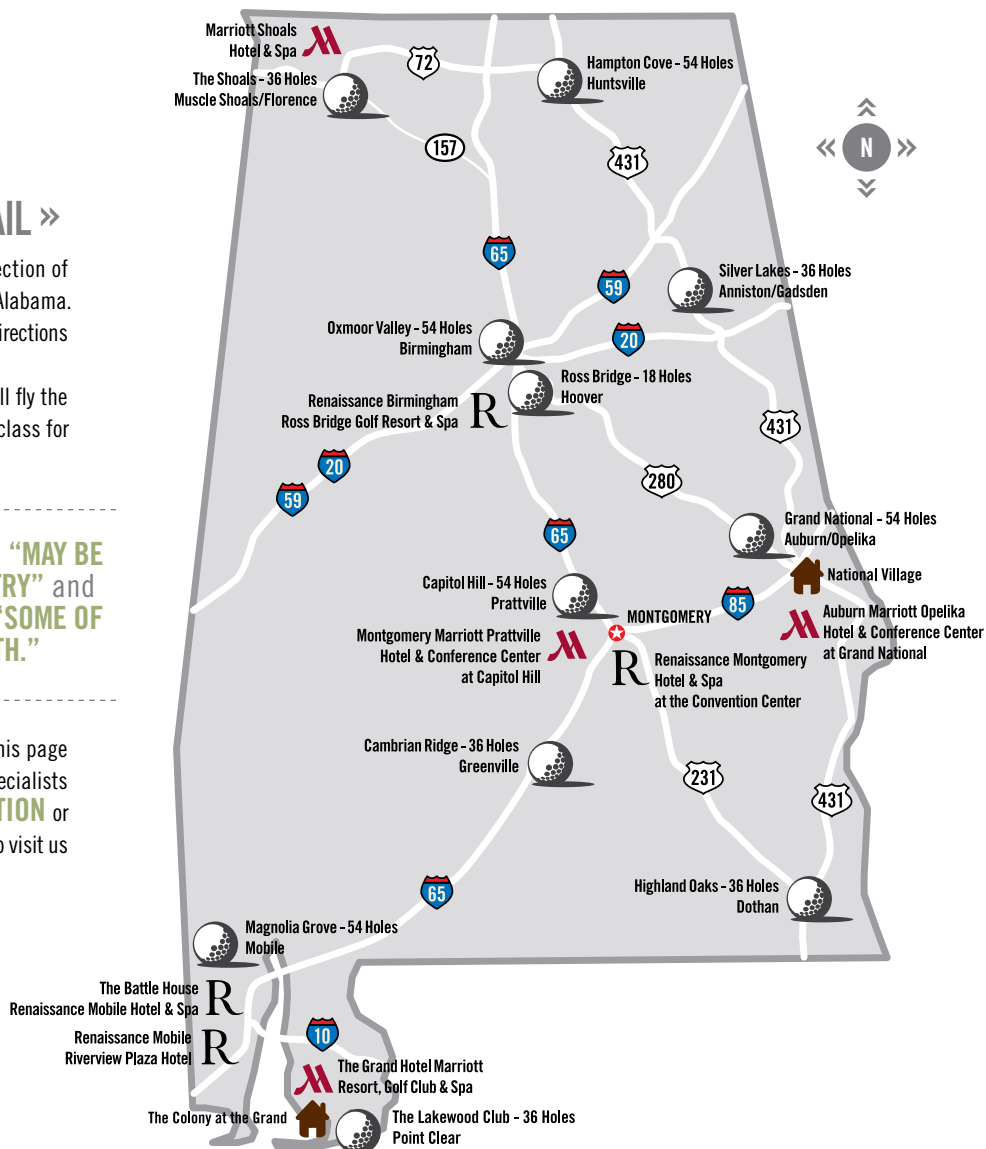
Please use the map and the mileage chart on this page for guidance or contact any of our Reservations Specialists at **800.949.4444 FOR MORE INFORMATION** or for tee times, pricing, and reservations. You may also visit us online at [www.rtgolf.com](http://www.rtgolf.com).



### FIND US » FOLLOW US

[www.facebook.com/rtgolf](https://www.facebook.com/rtgolf)

[www.twitter.com/rtgolf](https://www.twitter.com/rtgolf)



## MILEAGE BETWEEN TRAIL SITES

	CAPITOL HILL	CAMBRIAN RIDGE	GRAND NATIONAL	HAMPTON COVE	HIGHLAND OAKS	MAGNOLIA GROVE	LAKEWOOD G.C.	OXMOOR VALLEY	ROSS BRIDGE	SILVER LAKES	SHOALS
CAPITOL HILL	—	57	78	193	114	183	185	86	85	155	212
CAMBRIAN RIDGE	57	—	114	245	99	137	139	138	137	207	264
GRAND NATIONAL	78	114	—	189	131	240	242	121	120	112	242
HAMPTON COVE	193	245	189	—	310	372	374	122	123	81	77
HIGHLAND OAKS	114	99	131	310	—	201	217	201	200	233	328
MAGNOLIA GROVE	183	137	240	372	201	—	39	264	263	333	364
LAKEWOOD G.C.	185	139	242	374	217	39	—	284	283	353	384
OXMOOR VALLEY	86	138	121	122	201	264	284	—	2	88	140
ROSS BRIDGE	85	137	120	123	200	263	283	2	—	89	141
SILVER LAKES	155	207	112	81	233	333	353	88	89	—	135
SHOALS	212	264	242	77	328	364	384	140	141	135	—

## FIGHTING JOE COURSE

Black 8,092/78.7/138; Purple 7,126/74.0/135; Orange 6,628/71.5/130; White 6,154/69.3/123; Teal 4,978/69.0/122; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BLACK	611	466	478	426	236	497	607	477	236
PURPLE	567	413	416	360	193	468	537	406	190
ORANGE	540	388	396	326	175	432	524	375	157
WHITE	512	370	373	313	160	408	467	332	145
TEAL	394	302	320	279	137	325	408	283	101
PAR	5	4	4	4	3	4	5	4	3
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
BLACK	489	413	716	223	476	466	483	592	200
PURPLE	460	371	622	184	417	397	437	537	151
ORANGE	428	345	581	163	403	352	423	483	137
WHITE	412	332	498	153	369	326	385	473	126
TEAL	256	310	441	136	244	260	304	377	101
PAR	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	5	3

## SCHOOLMASTER COURSE

Black 7,971/78.0/143; Purple 7,294/74.7/134; Orange 6,778/72.2/128; White 6,160/69.1/124; Teal 5,249/70.3/121; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BLACK	453	238	477	632	472	265	459	509	681
PURPLE	421	196	450	568	452	231	400	445	645
ORANGE	382	178	421	549	409	208	366	406	604
WHITE	337	135	393	504	373	178	339	369	562
TEAL	311	131	337	478	315	158	268	325	488
PAR	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	4	5
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
BLACK	226	589	618	455	417	447	197	443	393
PURPLE	202	559	568	424	390	414	157	409	363
ORANGE	168	521	527	402	368	395	146	390	338
WHITE	147	489	501	353	333	347	135	347	318
TEAL	122	381	479	307	265	267	101	283	233
PAR	3	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4



## THE SHOALS

FLORENCE/MUSCLE SHOALS » 36 HOLES » OPENED 2004

The Fighting Joe Course at The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at The Shoals opened August 2004 and was the first Trail course to break 8,000 yards, measuring some 8,092 yards from the black tees. It's long, really long, and this links style course is simply good, straight-forward golf. You can see where you're going. The question is...can you get there?

Some say the spectacular 17th hole is the signature hole on the course, but the 18th green overlooking Wilson Lake on the Tennessee River will distract you with its beauty, if not its treachery. *Travel + Leisure Golf* named Fighting Joe one of the top new courses in 2004 for good reason. Long-hitters here will experience a test of champions; but from the correct tee box, all players will enjoy world-class golf.

The second course, The Schoolmaster (named for President Woodrow Wilson who was responsible for getting Wilson Dam built on the river and was known as The Schoolmaster of Politics) opened in the summer of 2005. This tree-lined course is more traditional golf with every hole in keeping with the natural topography along the Tennessee River. It is wooded, rolling, and spectacular.

The Schoolmaster may be a tougher course than Fighting Joe, but only time will tell. One thing's for sure, it's a shot maker's golf course with narrower fairways, tree-lined greens, and still a length of nearly 8,000 yards! It's hard to beat the beauty that the 18th hole holds on the high bluffs over the river, but the waterfall on the 2nd hole sure comes close. Make sure you've done your homework well, for The Schoolmaster will certainly test all of your skills.

The 2018 Couples Championship is August 31- September 2 and is limited to the first 56 teams. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT THE SHOALS

990 SUNBELT PARKWAY · MUSCLE SHOALS, AL 35661 · 256.446.5111

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjtheshoals](https://www.facebook.com/rtjtheshoals)



# HAMPTON COVE

HUNTSVILLE » 54 HOLES » OPENED 1992

The Northern gateway to the Trail is Hampton Cove in Huntsville, a 54-hole facility with terrain that drastically changes from one side of the property to the other.

Renovated in 2008, the Highlands Course has been restored to its original Scottish Links design. Long waving grasses frame beautiful rolling terrain and create beautiful golf holes. The finishing holes on the Highlands Course are among the most scenic and challenging on the Trail. One of the most recognizable landmarks on the Trail is the old mule barn beside the fifth hole.

Completely opposite in design is the River Course, the only Robert Trent Jones layout without a single bunker. The River Course is laid out on former soybean fields in the flood plain of the Flint River. The River Course is a throwback to the way courses were built long ago, where dirt was merely pushed up to create the greens and tees, leaving all else, including massive oak trees, as is. With water on 16 of the 18 holes, the River Course will challenge your shot making ability.

The Short Course at Hampton Cove is open and links-like, with water in play on 11 holes. It is a great venue for golfers of all skill levels and alternating tees allow golfers to hit every club in their bag. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT HAMPTON COVE

450 OLD HWY 431 SOUTH · OWENS CROSS ROADS, AL 35763 · 256.551.1818

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjhamptoncove](https://www.facebook.com/rtjhamptoncove)

## HIGHLANDS COURSE

Purple 7,428/76.0/132; Orange 6,806/69.9/123; White 6,070/69.9/123;

Ladies' Teal 4,951; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	409	403	550	215	412	435	453	238	526
<b>ORANGE</b>	394	372	518	183	378	406	424	190	511
<b>WHITE</b>	372	330	452	165	334	381	387	158	444
<b>TEAL</b>	309	303	377	94	273	336	318	94	361
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	5
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	461	206	435	415	414	539	259	621	437
<b>ORANGE</b>	434	177	347	391	382	520	211	570	398
<b>WHITE</b>	371	154	308	336	342	470	161	541	364
<b>TEAL</b>	257	108	265	319	298	390	101	475	304
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	4	4	4	5	3	5	4

## RIVER COURSE

Purple 7,668/77.8/136; Orange 6,764/72.8/134; White 6,111/69.7/128;

Ladies' Teal 5,278/70.4/119; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	556	207	467	447	476	214	433	627	438
<b>ORANGE</b>	505	186	404	375	388	196	393	566	394
<b>WHITE</b>	463	165	347	342	350	158	360	540	348
<b>TEAL</b>	431	135	267	299	285	135	305	499	318
<b>PAR</b>	5	3	4	4	4	3	4	5	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	572	437	454	421	208	600	187	451	473
<b>ORANGE</b>	535	398	418	382	186	519	176	378	365
<b>WHITE</b>	486	353	379	314	165	494	163	350	334
<b>TEAL</b>	428	293	340	276	112	426	132	314	283
<b>PAR</b>	5	4	4	4	3	5	3	4	4

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 3,635; Orange 3,007; White 2,480; Teal 1,861; Par 54

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	192	184	222	149	201	257	190	215	199
<b>ORANGE</b>	161	167	189	110	182	184	175	173	153
<b>WHITE</b>	124	152	154	95	149	145	144	145	128
<b>TEAL</b>	83	109	72	78	83	109	114	126	111
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	177	193	184	222	205	247	159	232	207
<b>ORANGE</b>	161	152	174	185	170	184	143	168	176
<b>WHITE</b>	115	131	144	156	143	137	115	151	152
<b>TEAL</b>	98	83	124	105	115	95	85	128	143
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

## MINDBREAKER COURSE

Black 3,642; Purple 3,432/36.8/146; Orange 3,199/35.9/146; White 3,010/35.0/136;

Teal 2,376/32.1/105; Ladies' White 38.3/149; Ladies' Teal 33.9/117; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	546	226	408	207	556	434	420	454	391
<b>PURPLE</b>	546	177	361	189	531	408	406	423	391
<b>ORANGE</b>	505	165	345	180	515	389	362	387	351
<b>WHITE</b>	475	157	345	169	492	370	320	358	324
<b>TEAL</b>	403	96	296	123	376	279	280	317	206
<b>PAR</b>	5	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	4

## HEARTBREAKER COURSE

Black 3,814; Purple 3,480/36.7/133; Orange 3,290/35.9/128; White 3,011/34.6/125;

Teal 2,474/32.5/109; Ladies' White 37.5/142; Ladies' Teal 34.5/120; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	568	466	455	431	215	452	550	229	448
<b>PURPLE</b>	532	414	427	404	174	412	521	198	398
<b>ORANGE</b>	481	375	402	404	165	394	506	165	398
<b>WHITE</b>	481	335	381	357	136	343	479	146	353
<b>TEAL</b>	431	290	329	312	109	301	375	67	260
<b>PAR</b>	5	4	4	4	3	4	5	3	4

## BACKBREAKER COURSE

Black 3,808; Purple 3,537/37.7/140; Orange 3,198/35.9/128; White 2,992/34.5/127;

Teal 2,369/32.0/113; Ladies' White 38.0/148; Ladies' Teal 34.9/126; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	455	206	455	458	231	401	623	445	534
<b>PURPLE</b>	426	159	425	451	194	371	578	399	534
<b>ORANGE</b>	406	143	399	400	167	346	496	342	499
<b>WHITE</b>	360	132	350	355	129	346	496	342	482
<b>TEAL</b>	293	92	294	292	99	212	369	287	431
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	4	4	3	4	5	4	5

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 1,946; Orange 1,450; White 1,276; Teal 798; Par 27

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	232	192	225	236	199	254	186	211	211
<b>ORANGE</b>	137	155	166	171	160	167	170	169	155
<b>WHITE</b>	123	133	146	156	130	138	147	150	153
<b>TEAL</b>	90	81	100	94	99	94	94	85	61
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3



# SILVER LAKES

ANNISTON/GADSDEN » 36 HOLES » OPENED 1993

Relax in the beauty of Northeast Alabama's stunning landscape as you explore 36 holes of forests, wetlands, grasslands, and dramatic elevation changes. The Heartbreaker, Backbreaker, Mindbreaker, and Short Course provide a challenging and scenic variety of holes to play.

Surrounded by the Appalachian foothills and Lee's Lake, Silver Lakes features the most unique and aptly named courses on the Trail, and all 36 greens boast Champion ultra dwarf putting surfaces.

The Backbreaker features wide fairways, demanding greens, and spectacular views of the surrounding foothills, while the Heartbreaker provides a unique mix of great golf holes and unequaled character with the final three holes showcasing elevation changes and dramatic lake vistas. The Mindbreaker is an unforgettable blend of shorter, elusive holes set in a beautiful sanctuary of woods, water, and wetlands. The Short Course provides a relaxing trip around Lee's Lake and offers magnificent views of surrounding landscape. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT SILVER LAKES

1 SUNBELT PARKWAY · GLENCOE, AL 35905 · 256.892.3268

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjsilverlakes](https://www.facebook.com/rtjsilverlakes)



# OXMOOR VALLEY

**BIRMINGHAM » 54 HOLES » OPENED 1992**

Centrally located in the state and just minutes from the newly revitalized downtown Birmingham area, this 54-hole facility was built on former mining land owned by U.S. Steel. Sculpted from the peaks and valleys of the Appalachians, the courses offer scenic forests, numerous creeks, and challenging elevation changes.

The Ridge Course offers numerous elevation changes, heavy tree cover, and is incredibly photogenic. As a tribute to the area's mining past, the green at the par-5 3rd hole is buttressed by a shelf of exposed shale rock.

The Valley is considered a more traditional layout, dotted with numerous sand bunkers and picturesque lakes and streams. It stretches two miles downrange along a slender valley. The par-5 12th hole offers the most intimidating of tee shots, with a large lake looming in front of the player, letting the best of golfers bite off as much as they can chew.

The Short Course at Oxmoor Valley is a delightful collection of 18 pure one-shotters. It is listed by *Golf Digest's Places to Play* as one of the nation's Great Value courses in the public category. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT OXMOOR VALLEY

100 SUNBELT PARKWAY · BIRMINGHAM, AL 35211 · 205.942.1177

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjoxmoorvalley](https://www.facebook.com/rtjoxmoorvalley)

## RIDGE COURSE

Purple 7,055/74.3/141; Orange 6,527/72.1/136; White 6,148/70.3/133; Teal 4,974/64.9/120;

Ladies' Orange 78.6/141; Ladies' White 76.4/137; Ladies' Teal 69.4/122; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	449	528	539	389	179	447	379	176	421
<b>ORANGE</b>	404	513	520	382	146	405	346	159	384
<b>WHITE</b>	364	500	506	356	123	389	317	129	393
<b>TEAL</b>	297	458	451	286	85	291	232	77	227
<b>PAR</b>	4	5	5	4	3	4	4	3	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	414	446	483	189	389	390	205	440	592
<b>ORANGE</b>	379	393	465	162	348	366	172	411	572
<b>WHITE</b>	361	373	440	137	333	353	165	396	543
<b>TEAL</b>	279	305	410	92	251	321	145	304	463
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	5	3	4	4	3	4	5

## VALLEY COURSE

Purple 7,162/74.9/146; Orange 6,592/72.1/139; White 6,052/69.4/129; Teal 4,927/64.0/113;

Ladies' Orange 78.8/145; Ladies' White 75.4/144; Ladies' Teal 68.6/119; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	440	204	435	188	415	400	564	433	561
<b>ORANGE</b>	415	174	391	171	375	369	509	396	541
<b>WHITE</b>	393	153	363	145	327	334	475	358	513
<b>TEAL</b>	367	100	285	109	265	290	401	268	428
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	4	3	4	4	5	4	5
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	475	363	506	207	552	407	178	400	441
<b>ORANGE</b>	420	322	504	177	527	381	165	359	393
<b>WHITE</b>	393	279	490	147	502	335	120	337	363
<b>TEAL</b>	284	229	461	107	441	295	81	302	210
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	5	3	5	4	3	4	4

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 3,360; Orange 3,037; White 2,556; Teal 1,871; Par 54

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	170	224	203	208	135	155	163	204	161
<b>ORANGE</b>	152	206	183	185	126	147	150	188	130
<b>WHITE</b>	122	195	138	142	113	139	131	170	119
<b>TEAL</b>	79	141	103	108	98	93	103	144	103
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	195	215	182	137	253	211	192	174	178
<b>ORANGE</b>	179	191	154	135	225	192	160	164	170
<b>WHITE</b>	166	158	144	127	141	153	137	129	132
<b>TEAL</b>	69	114	95	124	123	91	124	83	76
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

## ROSS BRIDGE COURSE

Black 8,191/78.5/135; Purple 7,446/74.9/127; Orange 6,783/71.3/118; White 6,200/68.7/117;  
Teal 5,312/70.2/123; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	620	467	470	226	469	207	619	502	518
<b>PURPLE</b>	573	430	445	202	417	194	561	447	410
<b>ORANGE</b>	543	395	422	155	380	185	519	408	377
<b>WHITE</b>	511	322	392	146	337	174	484	376	341
<b>TEAL</b>	463	278	366	140	303	110	458	311	285
<b>PAR</b>	5	4	4	3	4	3	5	4	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>BLACK</b>	477	208	454	698	239	458	571	501	487
<b>PURPLE</b>	454	184	429	614	219	415	538	467	447
<b>ORANGE</b>	417	167	408	540	176	366	511	411	403
<b>WHITE</b>	387	133	357	519	163	341	477	382	358
<b>TEAL</b>	273	120	326	403	130	293	410	334	309
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	4	5	3	4	5	4	4



## ROSS BRIDGE

HOOVER » 18 HOLES » OPENED 2005

Alabama welcomes the newest addition to the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail: Ross Bridge. Beautifully carved into the rolling terrain of Shannon Valley, these 18 holes will challenge even the best golfers. Named one of *Zagat's* top new courses, Ross Bridge has hosted the Regions Charity Classic, a PGA Champions Tour event.

The course meanders through indigenous landscape and around the 259-room Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa. Ross Bridge is the fifth longest course in the world but offers multiple tees for golfers of all levels. Symbolic of an old parkland style course, ten holes play along the banks of two significant lakes connected by a spectacular waterfall dropping 80 feet between the ninth and eighteenth greens. A gristmill added to the waterfall reflects the history of this old mining site. The beauty and challenge of each hole leads many to believe there is not one signature hole but possibly eighteen.

Like many other Trail courses, the par-three holes are incredible. Considerable elevation changes combine with water or other natural obstructions to get your attention. Large putting surfaces provide many tempting pin locations that will test golfers' approach shots.

Number 17, a long par four, plays to a small, well-guarded green. Water frames the right side of this down-sloping hole. In the background is a picturesque view of the ninth and eighteenth holes with the waterfall tumbling between. The seventh hole offers a par five that traverses a ridge high above the rest of the course. The ninth will leave you speechless as it is time to decide how daring you are off the tee. A split fairway allows for either a short challenging route along the water's edge or opt for safer play leaving a longer, more difficult approach to the green. Regardless if it is a par three, four, or five, Ross Bridge stands ready for your game! ■

### ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT ROSS BRIDGE

4000 GRAND AVENUE · BIRMINGHAM, AL 35226 · 205.949.3085

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjrossbridge](https://www.facebook.com/rtjrossbridge)



# GRAND NATIONAL

AUBURN/OPELIKA » 54 HOLES » OPENED 1992

Both the Links Course and the Lake Course were in the top 10 of *Golf Digest's* list of "America's Top 50 Affordable Courses" and all three courses at Grand National are listed among the nation's 40 Super Value courses by *Golf Digest's* "Places to Play". Grand National, by all reports, was the single greatest site for a golf complex Robert Trent Jones, Sr. had ever seen. Grand National is built on 600-acre Lake Saugahatchee with 32 of the 54 holes draped along its filigreed shores.

The cornerstone of the complex is the Links Course, which is without a single weakness. The par-4 18th is without a doubt the strongest finishing hole on the Trail. The drive must carry a corner of the lake, while the approach is played to a shallow pedestal green shored up by boulders.

With 12 holes hugging the shore, Grand National's Lake Course is every bit as scenic as the Links. Not only is the quartet of par threes on the Lake Course as good as any in the nation, the 230-yard, island green 15th may be the single prettiest hole on the Trail. The Lake course hosted PGA TOUR events in previous years.

The Short Course, while overshadowed by the two main tracts, is a thing of beauty, with more than half the holes touching the lake. This 18-hole course of one-shotters might be the finest anywhere in the country.

The 2018 Couples Classic will be November 9-11 and will be limited to the first 96 teams.

National Village, a golfing community on the Trail, is adjacent to these courses and the Marriott Hotel. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT GRAND NATIONAL

3000 ROBERT TRENT JONES TRAIL · OPELIKA, AL 36801 · 334.749.9042

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjgrandnational](https://www.facebook.com/rtjgrandnational)

## LAKE COURSE

Purple 7,289/74.3/136; Orange 6,488/71.3/126; White 5,948/68.7/117; Teal 4,910/68.7/117;

Ladies' White 74.4/133; Ladies' Teal 68.0/119; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	390	428	197	527	431	455	557	213	430
<b>ORANGE</b>	364	381	178	480	396	381	521	182	379
<b>WHITE</b>	319	361	168	447	385	352	477	148	339
<b>TEAL</b>	285	308	92	399	308	295	418	103	276
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	3	5	4	4	5	3	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	434	445	522	470	545	230	334	205	476
<b>ORANGE</b>	397	387	493	388	510	182	297	174	398
<b>WHITE</b>	353	356	459	361	488	160	285	143	357
<b>TEAL</b>	276	239	391	343	384	93	247	126	327
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	5	4	5	3	4	3	4

## LINKS COURSE

Purple 7,311/75.1/135; Orange 6,574/72.3/129; White 6,015/69.6/119; Teal 4,843/69.6/113;

Ladies' White 75.5/139; Ladies' Teal 70.4/120; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	423	556	206	425	456	544	472	345	204
<b>ORANGE</b>	396	509	182	409	375	499	446	319	170
<b>WHITE</b>	366	470	165	384	342	460	409	299	133
<b>TEAL</b>	313	385	110	262	275	412	318	234	119
<b>PAR</b>	4	5	3	4	4	5	4	4	3
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	363	260	575	418	467	516	181	429	471
<b>ORANGE</b>	326	195	500	378	422	467	152	402	427
<b>WHITE</b>	289	151	493	343	372	451	118	368	402
<b>TEAL</b>	242	69	426	272	338	362	93	312	301
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	5	4	4	5	3	4	4

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 3,328/56.7; Orange 2,798/55.2; White 2,476/53.7; Teal 1,715/51.9;

Ladies' White 55.4; Ladies' Teal 53.2; Par 54

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	188	201	171	173	187	173	152	216	250
<b>ORANGE</b>	170	166	151	152	147	137	119	193	234
<b>WHITE</b>	148	148	128	131	124	137	119	174	211
<b>TEAL</b>	93	106	83	92	102	97	89	119	71
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	161	187	231	185	138	204	202	155	154
<b>ORANGE</b>	131	172	179	151	108	184	173	110	121
<b>WHITE</b>	108	139	179	98	104	156	156	110	106
<b>TEAL</b>	85	95	119	58	72	143	108	77	106
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

## LEGISLATOR COURSE

Black 7,477/76.9/149; Purple 6,836/74.0/143; Orange 6,366/71.4/139; White 5,901/69.4/131;  
Teal 5,253/66.1/117; Ladies' White 74.3/133; Ladies' Teal 70.4/121; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BLACK	631	434	177	481	603	198	425	488	420
PURPLE	554	404	163	421	577	174	401	429	405
ORANGE	541	366	147	391	509	151	375	405	366
WHITE	490	330	136	355	490	137	361	374	338
TEAL	435	310	115	325	426	115	297	347	311
PAR	5	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
BLACK	412	207	387	538	478	407	182	585	424
PURPLE	369	170	367	504	434	364	160	552	388
ORANGE	350	148	348	494	407	343	148	512	365
WHITE	337	126	331	467	382	313	124	480	330
TEAL	245	105	302	451	343	270	110	451	295
PAR	4	3	4	5	4	4	3	5	4

## SENATOR COURSE

Black 7,654/77.4/132; Purple 6,941/74.1/125; Orange 6,410/70.9/126; White 5,831/68.1/121;  
Teal 5,137/64.7/110; Ladies' White 73.6/123; Ladies' Teal 69.6/116; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BLACK	427	230	419	426	611	420	231	558	437
PURPLE	395	204	385	390	563	385	195	530	402
ORANGE	365	165	364	363	539	349	167	496	376
WHITE	329	139	322	339	500	326	129	453	343
TEAL	281	121	290	282	442	301	110	393	290
PAR	4	3	4	4	5	4	3	5	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
BLACK	616	435	496	203	459	448	222	559	457
PURPLE	543	400	434	169	426	416	181	515	408
ORANGE	528	370	400	154	394	389	147	475	369
WHITE	484	358	374	138	358	334	115	456	334
TEAL	460	317	326	116	333	307	84	376	308
PAR	5	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4

## JUDGE COURSE

Black 7,813/78.5/147; Purple 7,082/75.1/142; Orange 6,517/71.7/131; White 5,910/68.7/128;  
Teal 4,951/64.7/115; Ladies' White 74.4/137; Ladies' Teal 68.4/123; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BLACK	415	459	187	617	423	229	675	466	430
PURPLE	400	416	166	579	386	190	625	452	387
ORANGE	379	379	155	548	342	148	589	425	362
WHITE	347	350	129	486	326	133	575	396	330
TEAL	296	305	112	402	273	120	351	344	271
PAR	4	4	3	5	4	3	5	4	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
BLACK	711	478	231	427	469	552	256	430	358
PURPLE	563	400	215	405	424	529	223	384	338
ORANGE	543	370	179	358	385	500	170	364	321
WHITE	503	340	110	313	371	457	153	327	264
TEAL	421	268	94	261	352	413	126	288	254
PAR	5	4	3	4	4	5	3	4	4



## CAPITOL HILL

PRATTVILLE » 54 HOLES » OPENED 1999

Named the # 2 public golf site in the country by *Golf World* readers, Capitol Hill in Prattville continues to get praises from golfers and golf writers alike. *Golf* magazine called The Judge Course one of the 10 public courses in America worthy of hosting the U.S. Open and the *Zagat* Survey of America's Top Golf Courses ranked it among the top 50 courses in America. The Senator was named among the Top 10 New Courses in the nation by *Golf* magazine and hosts the Symetra Tour's Guardian Championship in September.

Located in Prattville, approximately 8 miles north of Alabama's state capitol, Capitol Hill features three 18-hole championship courses. With more than 1,500 acres of golf and nature, the pure magnitude of this facility is amazing and allows each course to be drastically different from the others.

The Senator, a Scottish-Links style course with Champion Bermuda greens, holds more than 160 pot-hole bunkers and mounds 20 to 40 feet in height, hiding the cart path or any other hole from the fairway. The secluded settings of each hole will make it feel as if you are the only foursome on the course.

The Legislator, a more traditional course, plays in and out of pine trees and along the bluff. The view riding down the "Sky Bridge" for six holes laid out in a native cypress swamp will impress as you are led back up the bluff to finish the course at the spectacular clubhouse.

The Judge offers stunning vistas along the 200-acre backwaters of the Alabama River. The first tee lies 200 feet above the fairway overlooking the river and the Montgomery skyline. With 14 holes adjoining the water and a bulkhead island green, the Judge is described as simply magnificent.

Capitol Hill also features an innovative circular driving range 400 yards in diameter. ■

### ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT CAPITOL HILL

2600 CONSTITUTION AVENUE · PRATTVILLE, AL 36066 · 334.285.1114

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjcapitolhill](https://www.facebook.com/rtjcapitolhill)



# CAMBRIAN RIDGE

GREENVILLE » 36 HOLES » OPENED 1993

Known by avid golfers as one of the most beautiful and most challenging stops on the Trail, Cambrian Ridge in Greenville lies just 40 miles from Montgomery. It is well worth the ride for any golfer looking for 36 holes of jaw-dropping golf.

Since being named by *Golf Digest* as the third best new public course in America in 1994, Cambrian Ridge has not rested on its laurels. 2016 saw the culmination of a 3-year total renovation of the original 27 championship holes set upon the most spectacular setting for golf in the state of Alabama. The Loblolly and Sherling nines were completed in 2013 and 2014. The Canyon nine redesign and reconstruction were completed in 2016. The greens themselves have been redesigned to accommodate the higher greens speeds associated with our installation of the latest-generation of ultra-dwarf Bermuda grass. However, this major renovation did not stop with the new greens. Many of the holes have been totally redesigned to open up views of Sherling Lake, deliver a challenging test of golf while providing players of all skill levels a variety of ways to play each hole and enjoy the experience.

This year on Memorial Day weekend, May 26-27, Cambrian Ridge will host the annual Father/Son Championship, one of the most popular events on the Trail. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT CAMBRIAN RIDGE

101 SUNBELT PARKWAY · GREENVILLE, AL 36037 · 334.382.9787

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[f www.facebook.com/rtjcambrianridge](https://www.facebook.com/rtjcambrianridge)

## SHERLING COURSE

Purple 3,522/37.4/67; Orange 3,264/36.3/65; White 2,905/34.9/62; Teal 2,339/33.7/60;

Ladies' Teal 34.3/57; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	546	209	420	169	360	390	437	636	355
<b>ORANGE</b>	531	167	388	128	345	367	412	601	325
<b>WHITE</b>	490	146	355	120	330	294	354	514	302
<b>TEAL</b>	417	91	270	65	224	253	322	460	237
<b>PAR</b>	5	3	4	3	4	4	4	5	4

## CANYON COURSE

Purple 3,578/38.0/74; Orange 3,339/36.7/72; White 3,030/34.5/70; Teal 2,397/34.4/68;

Ladies' Teal 34.4/59; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	501	175	585	444	383	418	522	190	360
<b>ORANGE</b>	477	155	553	421	353	374	499	175	332
<b>WHITE</b>	432	135	478	366	330	366	464	152	307
<b>TEAL</b>	371	105	409	297	272	259	336	108	240
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	5	4	4	4	5	3	4

## LOBLOLLY COURSE

Purple 3,528/36.6/66; Orange 3,316/35.6/63; White 2,928/34.7/61; Teal 2,384/33.4/58;

Ladies' Teal 33.5/54; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	497	421	418	159	418	222	503	447	443
<b>ORANGE</b>	469	397	390	136	413	196	474	423	418
<b>WHITE</b>	457	346	334	121	367	138	434	366	365
<b>TEAL</b>	342	322	249	84	301	112	369	321	284
<b>PAR</b>	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	4

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 1,640; Orange 1,415; White 1,116; Teal 745; Par 27

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	156	187	211	147	173	159	231	185	191
<b>ORANGE</b>	136	155	187	123	142	141	210	162	159
<b>WHITE</b>	118	121	151	79	109	123	123	151	141
<b>TEAL</b>	81	71	94	66	76	75	76	93	113
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

## HIGHLANDS COURSE

Black 3,892/38.7/71; Purple 3,580/37.5/69; Orange 3,285/36.0/72; White 2,966/34.5/69;  
Teal 2,554/34.8/60; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	493	458	457	256	430	206	561	435	596
<b>PURPLE</b>	442	415	437	225	390	178	523	409	561
<b>ORANGE</b>	410	371	388	181	362	169	507	372	525
<b>WHITE</b>	392	341	354	127	336	145	422	352	497
<b>TEAL</b>	367	253	294	115	327	120	339	305	434
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	4	3	4	3	5	4	5

## MARSHWOOD COURSE

Black 3,812/38.7/72; Purple 3,502/37.4/72; Orange 3,204/35.3/71; White 2,849/34.0/68;  
Teal 2,531/34.7/60; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	411	564	406	205	456	701	448	199	422
<b>PURPLE</b>	370	521	364	178	441	660	421	167	380
<b>ORANGE</b>	334	483	327	147	418	616	382	149	348
<b>WHITE</b>	304	453	311	126	380	544	302	113	316
<b>TEAL</b>	276	406	266	114	351	435	287	94	302
<b>PAR</b>	4	5	4	3	4	5	4	3	4

## MAGNOLIA COURSE

Black 3,701/38.1/66; Purple 3,415/36.7/67; Orange 3,141/34.8/63; White 2,862/33.8/61;  
Teal 2,471/34.2/57; Par 36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BLACK</b>	392	205	577	546	416	481	195	437	452
<b>PURPLE</b>	371	166	545	516	377	441	176	409	414
<b>ORANGE</b>	330	147	520	480	352	396	150	373	393
<b>WHITE</b>	296	110	476	457	317	363	136	341	366
<b>TEAL</b>	252	81	392	413	291	307	111	297	327
<b>PAR</b>	4	3	5	5	4	4	3	4	4

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 1,809; Orange 1,539; White 1,229; Teal 874; Par 27

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	199	241	216	172	174	188	232	178	209
<b>ORANGE</b>	164	215	181	149	137	141	197	175	180
<b>WHITE</b>	121	184	133	127	101	113	159	136	155
<b>TEAL</b>	85	108	94	83	73	76	106	113	136
<b>PAR</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3



# HIGHLAND OAKS

**DOTHAN » 36 HOLES » OPENED 1993**

Located in the southeast corner of Alabama, Highland Oaks offers three nine-hole championship courses. The Highlands/Magnolia combination was named by *Golf Digest's* "Places to Play" as one of the nation's Great Value courses. This 36-hole complex features some of the longest and most classically designed holes on the Trail. Each nine has a different personality. Highlands, the core nine, is relatively open with several lakes in play. The peninsula green at the par-3 6th has an elusive, beckoning quality.

Marshwood has been made famous (or notorious) by its behemoth par-5 6th, which stretches to 701 yards from the tips. The 422-yard par-4 9th, a left to right dogleg, is arguably the best hole at the site and has a tilted green elevated above a swathe of wetlands. The Magnolia nine is well-named: specimen magnolia trees dot the higher ground, which is reached via a 1,000-foot long wooden bridge spanning a marsh filled with lichen-dappled trees. The feature hole is the 416-yard 5th, where a split-level fairway offers an option off the tee. The Short Course, a nine-hole par 3, has demanding bunker placements, three water holes, and possibly the best putting Bermuda greens in the South. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT HIGHLAND OAKS

904 ROYAL PARKWAY · DOTHAN, AL 36305 · 334.712.2820

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjhighlandoaks](https://www.facebook.com/rtjhighlandoaks)



# MAGNOLIA GROVE

MOBILE » 54 HOLES » OPENED 1992

The new Magnolia Grove features two renovated golf courses. Each championship course received extensive renovations in the past three years. Golfers will find more “player friendly” qualities without compromising the integrity of Robert Trent Jones’ original design.

Magnolia Grove, the most southern location on Alabama’s Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, was recently named one of the “Top 50 Public Courses” by *Golf World Magazine* readers. The Crossings and Falls courses are also listed in *Golf Digest’s* “Places to Play” as two of the nation’s Great Value courses and as “America’s Top 50 Affordable Courses.”

The topography at Magnolia Grove features creeks, marshland, and lakes with each of the 54 holes carved through indigenous hardwood and pine. The new Crossings Course, which has hosted the PGA Tour, provides an open parkland type ambiance. Several water features and crushed oyster shell waste areas were added to provide an exciting new look. All 18 greens have been redesigned and planted with the newly acclaimed Mini Verde ultra dwarf Bermuda grass.

The renovated Falls Course reopened in October 2010 as the only par-71 golf course on the Trail. The main tract at Magnolia Grove is characterized by large, liberally contoured Mini Verde greens and massive cloverleaf bunkers. Several holes were entirely redesigned giving the course a brand new look.

*Golf Digest* named the Short Course at Magnolia Grove as the best par-3 course in America. The Short Course, also recently renovated, features several newly designed greens and all new putting surfaces with the acclaimed Champion ultra dwarf Bermuda grass. Renovations were complete in August 2011. This course is as good as any collection of one-shotters on a championship course.

The 2018 Couples Challenge will be April 27-29 and is limited to the first 112 teams. ■

## ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF COURSE AT MAGNOLIA GROVE

7001 MAGNOLIA GROVE PARKWAY · MOBILE, AL 36618 · 251.645.0075

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjmagnoliagrove](https://www.facebook.com/rtjmagnoliagrove)

## CROSSINGS COURSE

Purple 7,212/73.6/125; Orange 6,652/70.8/123; White 6,157/68.6/114;

Ladies’ Teal 5,261/67.8/113; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
PURPLE	422	185	385	540	430	528	412	219	406
ORANGE	387	168	347	511	392	500	385	192	381
WHITE	342	135	317	496	378	484	369	163	349
TEAL	275	101	279	478	331	425	314	122	316
PAR	4	3	4	5	4	5	4	3	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
PURPLE	417	398	421	559	195	423	596	226	450
ORANGE	386	364	392	524	172	400	535	201	415
WHITE	374	334	371	508	157	354	476	168	382
TEAL	348	273	285	430	99	282	425	134	344
PAR	4	4	4	5	3	4	5	3	4

## FALLS COURSE

Purple 7,158/74.6/142; Orange 6,674/71.4/135; White 6,119/69.5/126; Teal 5,049/68.1/124;

Ladies’ Teal 70.4/124; Par 71

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
PURPLE	448	195	430	407	582	190	446	417	420
ORANGE	406	179	413	367	522	173	410	393	386
WHITE	370	152	380	345	506	143	390	372	349
TEAL	345	111	308	335	415	91	340	296	279
PAR	4	3	4	4	5	3	4	4	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
PURPLE	570	206	423	169	444	445	426	388	552
ORANGE	552	188	405	157	398	407	414	373	531
WHITE	523	161	370	137	369	364	351	325	512
TEAL	393	106	324	117	264	328	295	282	420
PAR	5	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	5

## SHORT COURSE

Purple 3,140; Orange 2,734; White 2,279; Teal 1,829; Par 54

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
PURPLE	174	180	189	215	137	135	190	178	160
ORANGE	160	170	165	189	107	126	152	153	140
WHITE	119	137	124	155	91	100	127	140	126
TEAL	93	102	90	136	71	80	90	110	118
PAR	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
PURPLE	173	192	195	205	190	110	192	155	170
ORANGE	151	174	170	175	164	99	161	135	143
WHITE	132	132	142	143	144	85	138	111	133
TEAL	117	108	128	121	103	70	122	80	90
PAR	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

## AZALEA COURSE

Purple 7,504/75.3/132; Orange 6,759/71.5/126; White 6,112/68.5/117; Teal 5,431/70.3/116;  
Red 4,725/67.8/111; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	636	411	420	203	355	572	225	463	470
<b>ORANGE</b>	558	375	400	178	315	520	180	422	385
<b>WHITE</b>	490	345	353	164	288	491	159	379	372
<b>TEAL</b>	455	312	339	145	243	400	148	349	305
<b>RED</b>	410	255	303	77	216	354	120	296	293
<b>PAR</b>	5	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	429	514	448	196	545	195	471	475	476
<b>ORANGE</b>	389	500	398	180	531	147	428	423	430
<b>WHITE</b>	347	460	371	158	472	133	342	386	402
<b>TEAL</b>	344	420	354	117	421	107	289	349	334
<b>RED</b>	302	321	338	107	383	66	273	307	304
<b>PAR</b>	4	5	4	3	5	3	4	4	4

## DOGWOOD COURSE

Purple 7,063/72.9/128; Orange 6,521/70.4/126; White 5,885/67.5/115; Teal 5,301/70.3/122;  
Red 4,578/66.5/112; Par 72

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>PURPLE</b>	528	425	214	399	499	426	305	191	398
<b>ORANGE</b>	483	410	174	380	469	415	286	177	361
<b>WHITE</b>	425	375	167	362	442	379	262	155	328
<b>TEAL</b>	385	330	143	344	397	347	236	128	294
<b>RED</b>	335	266	105	239	346	324	221	106	256
<b>PAR</b>	5	4	3	4	5	4	4	3	4
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>PURPLE</b>	380	445	548	233	463	454	572	209	374
<b>ORANGE</b>	347	415	521	191	428	424	531	176	333
<b>WHITE</b>	316	367	454	170	355	381	479	157	311
<b>TEAL</b>	296	322	390	154	335	361	408	139	292
<b>RED</b>	267	295	334	130	315	312	382	119	226
<b>PAR</b>	4	4	5	3	4	4	5	3	4



# LAKEWOOD GOLF CLUB

POINT CLEAR » 36 HOLES » OPENED 2004

The venerable Dogwood and Azalea courses at the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa, have seen a lot in their days. They've hosted President Gerald Ford, Dr. Billy Graham, and Bob Hope, to name a few of the more famous players.

They've been through renovations and hurricanes and still remain a showcase for great golf in the South. First built in 1947, the Lakewood Golf Club at the Grand Hotel showcases fairways lined with 200-year-old oaks and a dramatic signature hole, the 14th on Azalea. An island green is surrounded by a four-acre lake, which makes your approach shot to this par-5 very demanding. Recently renovated, the new designs lend themselves to superb conditioning year round. With the addition or expansion of 10 water features over the span of the 36 holes as well as other interesting architectural features, golfers are faced with decisions at every corner.

Lakewood's two 18-hole courses alternate openings between Grand Hotel guests and Trail Card Holders, and Lakewood Golf Club members. The varying degree of difficulty promises a memorable golf experience for both the novice and the experienced golfer alike. Where the Dogwood course might seem a tad bit easier, and the Azalea, more of a challenge, both courses can play to your liking depending on your selection of tees. With five sets of tees per hole, your decision should be rather easy.

Funded by the Retirement Systems of Alabama, the Dogwood course is currently under renovation with a reopening date of summer 2018. The Azalea course is scheduled for renovation in 2019. Lakewood Golf Club has several times been named to *Golf Magazine's* "Best Golf Resorts in America."

Colony at the Grand, a residential development, overlooks the Azalea course at Lakewood. ■

## LAKEWOOD GOLF CLUB

ONE GRAND BOULEVARD · POINT CLEAR, AL 36564 · 251.990.6312

Visit [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com) for more information

[www.facebook.com/rtjlakewood](https://www.facebook.com/rtjlakewood)

