



River Course 16th Green at Kingsmill Resort

Ponder for a few seconds the rich history and long list of greats associated with golf in the Williamsburg area. Course designers like Robert Trent Jones Sr., Pete Dye, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Curtis Strange, Rees Jones, and Tom Clark. An NCAA championship. PGA and LPGA champions like David Toms, Lanny Wadkins, David Duval, and Annika Sorenstam dating back nearly four decades.

It almost seems like the legacy stretches back to 1607, when the first English colonists landed at Jamestown. Golf arrived on these shores much later, of course, but the history of golf in the Williamsburg area forms the foundation for the future, a future as one of the top golf destinations in the United States.

If you haven't taken a good walk spoiled around one of the signature courses in the area, it's time to plan your trip. One course after another has been transformed by dramatic renovations. The area has evolved as well with a unique collection of attractions before and after the 19th Hole including resorts, spas, award-winning restaurants and a tasting trail featuring beer, wine, and spirits all within a destination that is just 2.5 hours from Washington DC and Dulles international airport.

Curtis Strange spent countless hours enjoying the courses in the area throughout the years so he

appreciates both the legacy and the desire to build something new upon that foundation. "Williamsburg has an enviable history as a golf destination," he says. "So it's personally satisfying for me to see the renewed focus on making the courses a premier destination for golfers of all levels."

The time to look anew at Williamsburg is now.

Here's what you will see:

An Eclectic Menu of Courses

The Gold Course at Colonial Williamsburg's **Golden Horseshoe Golf Club**, host to the 2007 Men's NCAA championship, reopened last year after a complete renovation overseen by Rees Jones, son of Robert Trent Jones Sr. It now features new grass on the fairways, roughs and greens, improved bunkers and re-designed tees. Even Gold Course veterans will find new challenges on this classic course. For a longer, but more forgiving course, check out the Green Course or slide over to the Spotswood course for nine holes of family fun.

At the **Williamsburg National Golf Club**, which features two courses -- Jamestown and Yorktown -- there's an upgraded clubhouse restaurant, the 1607 Grill. The Jamestown course, designed by Nicklaus to

showcase subtle elevation changes and dense pine forests, has undergone a facelift resurfacing the greens with Bermuda grass, giving golfers a choice between that and the bentgrass greens of the Yorktown Course.

At **Kingsmill Resort**, the only AAA Four Diamond resort in the area, there are new owners with experience running multiple courses nationwide, including those hosting tour events. Upgraded maintenance means the two courses designed by Pete Dye and Arnold Palmer will be ready for play nearly year-round. For more than three decades, The River Course has hosted the world's best players on both PGA and LPGA tours. The resort is also a place to leap to the next level by having your skills assessed by a Kingsmill coach or signing up for a class with PGA pro, Chris George one of the inaugural instructors of the Golf Channel Academy.

At the **Kiskiack Golf Club**, experience a view to a thrill on every picturesque hole. The course is set along the ridge of a natural bluff. You'll find a hole for golfers of every level from those demanding precise shot-making from tee to green to others with large landing areas that are more forgiving.

Three courses make for variety at the **Ford's Colony Country Club**. Blackheath opened in 1999 and features water on 13 holes and one bunker after another. The Blue Heron course also opened in 1991 and often earns comparisons to the famous layout at Pinehurst. It had large fairways, new Bermuda greens, and is the longest of the three. Marsh Hawk opened in 1985 and retains the narrow, tree-lined fairways, lakes and elevation changes to challenge any golfer.



Williamsburg Inn



Gold Course, Golden Horseshoe #13



Yorktown Course, Williamsburg National

liamsburg, where there's a winning trifecta - golf, food, and live music. Play a round of high definition golf on one of the world's most famous courses. Check out the menu of sandwiches, salmon, and steak. Sample a beer from one of 20 taps or an extensive wine and cocktail list that includes the Par-Tee-Ni. On Fridays and Saturdays, listen to live music starting at 7 p.m.

Pampering of Every Kind before the First Tee and After the 19th Hole The resorts and lodges in the area are looking to the future, too. Kingsmill Resort has updated its condos with new carpeting, improved kitchens, and new mini-refrigerators in all rooms. The Williamsburg Inn, named a five-star hotel by Forbes Travel, recently completed an \$8 million renovation including a new terrace, upgraded rooms and a redesign of its signature Rockefeller Room restaurant. The Historic Powhatan Resort also underwent a facelift in recent years with remodeled rooms, a new workout facility, and a renovated outdoor pool and spa area. At the Williamsburg Plantation Resort, more than 100 rooms have been redone recently. The amenities there include an indoor and outdoor swimming pool and a spa. Family-priced lodging including the Williamsburg Lodge, Fairfield Inn and Suites, the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, and the Comfort Inn have also upped their game.



Williamsburg Tasting Trail Beers

The Colonial Heritage Golf Club features an Arthur Hills-design that challenges you from the first hole to the last. Expect to use every club in your bag on a course that plays through deep ravines, undulating fairways and large greens guarded by bunkers and water on several holes.

If you don't get enough swings in by sundown, there's hope. Go duffing after dark at **Revolution Golf and Grille** in Wil-

Where there are resorts, of course, there are spas. At Kingsmill Resort, the spa recently had its own face peel. It's decorated with natural river rock accents and Swarovski Crystal-embellished wallpaper, offers so many services that it takes a booklet to showcase them. Among them are Swedish massage, European facials, French manicures, and a chocolate wrap. At the Spa of Colonial Williamsburg, there's a unique chance to time travel through treatments blending ancient rituals with modern technology. Five signature services are inspired by the 17th through 21st centuries, ranging from an herbal wrap and hot stone massage to a detoxifying seaweed wrap and an anti-aging facial.

For something different, the Williamsburg Salt Spa used 15 tons of Polish and Hima-

layan salt to create the Salt Cave, the first on the East Coast. Clients at the spa can sit in the cave or float in tanks, which helps the body absorb a combination of minerals.

When you get out and about, hit The Williamsburg Tasting Trail to quench your thirst for craft beer, award-winning wines and even small-batch whiskeys flavored with fruitwood instead of peat by visiting three breweries, one winery and two distilleries. At the Virginia Beer Company, small batches supplement their regular offerings and a sprawling outdoor patio features a fire pit, tables to play board games and cornhole. At Alewerks Brewing Company, there's often music playing on weekends in the taproom or the patio outside. Copper Fox Distillery produces the first applewood-aged whiskey in the world, as if you needed another excuse to stop by for a taste.

Drinks demand food and the restaurant scene in the area has undergone a renaissance in recent years. You'll find funky newcomers like The Hound's Tale with inventive drinks and bites featuring Virginia moonshine and crab-stuffed tortelloni and Amber Ox Public House, a restaurant that also serves its own handcrafted beer. Of course, there are longtime standards, too many to mention, including Fat Canary, The Cheese Shop, Le Yaca, Waypoint Seafood and Grille, The Blue Talon, and Shorty's Diner. Whether you're ravenous for creative American fare, fine French dining, the best of bistro food, oysters and crab fresh from nearby waters or simply a short stack that will carry you through lunch, they're all here.

A new Williamsburg is emerging, one that nods to its considerable history, but looks to the future as a sophisticated golf destination only a short trip away. Make your reservation today.

CONTACT

For more information, please call Lisa Pacheco at (757) 253-2313 or pacheco@visitwilliamsburg.com.



Williamsburg Winery



Yorktown Silver Rum by Williamsburg Distillery



Kingsmill Championship