THE **GOLFING** DELIGHTS OF **POLAND**

Irish Golf Review explores a selection of leading golf clubs on the Baltic Coast (near Gdansk) and the Masuria Lake District (near Olsztyn).

Sierra Golf Club



Golf Clubs around the Baltic Coast (near Gdansk)

SIERRA GOLF CLUB

he Sierra Golf Club complex is situated on 82 hectares of stunning countryside in Petkowice, 45km from Gdansk International Airport. The complex strives to create a unique atmosphere by bringing together stunning natural surroundings, excellent equipment and first class service for all of their guests.

The Club meets world class standards offering a full scale (par 72) 18 hole master class golf course, equipped with a modern driving range (26 stands

are sheltered from the rain), and putting, chipping and pitching greens. The club currently has over 220 members and is attracting increasing numbers of golf enthusiasts, not least by introducing prestigious events to the calendar each year.

The Sierra Gold Club course was designed by Scot Cameron Sinclair using the most modern GPS systems to create an exciting model, playing on the natural characteristics of the land to expand hills and valleys, and widen streams and backwaters. The land was drained before a computer integrated irrigation system was applied to the site.

Sierra Gold Club boasts 38 self propelled golf carts, each equipped with the innovative "Golf GPS" system with an 11in LCD screen and WiFi functionality, which allows golfers to display maps, distances, player's locations, results, statistics and tips. It also enables communication with the clubhouse, eg to contact Reception to signal deteriorating weather/ emergency situations, or just to order refreshments so they are waiting on your return!

The Sierra Apartments offer luxurious onsite accommodation, allowing golfers of all levels to start their day with breakfast on the terrace overlooking the course before heading out for the day and fully taking advantage of all the complex has to offer.

For further information, visit www.sierragolf.pl/ email: sierragolf@sierragolf.pl or tel: +48 58 778 49 00







TOKARY GOLF CLUB

Tokary Golf Club was founded in 2001. Established in the countryside of Przodkowo in Kartuzy county, five miles from the international airport of Gdansk. The course is situated on 110 acres of beautiful farmland in the Kashubian Switzerland region amidst countless rolling hills that make it an exciting and attractive site. An imaginative blend of broad, seemingly flat fairways and easy putting greens give the impression of a easy course, yet is very challenging in its own unique way.

The guests are welcomed to test their game on a scenic 9-hole course currently being upgraded to a full 18. The practice facility consists of a Driving Range, Putting Green, and a 3-hole Golf Academy. The clubhouse includes a golf equipment rental shop, pro shop, cloakroom, buffet and two full swing Golf Simulators. In the nearby neighbourhood, the guests are welcome to enjoy two hi-tech, indoor tennis courts, a restaurant and a horse stable with an equestrian school. Tokary Golf Club organizes intensive golf courses led by a PGA qualified professional.

The offer includes elementary courses as well as specialized training.

Tokary make every effort to provide an exceptional golf experience on a challenging course for players of all skill levels, as well as creating a friendly and professional atmosphere with the support of highly qualified staff, and at attractive prices. You are always welcome in Tokary Golf Club!

For further information visit the Website: www.tokarygolf.pl, email: tokarygolf@gmail.com; or biuro@tokarygolf.pl

GDANSK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Commonly known as Postolowo Golf Club and located 28 km south to Gdansk, it is ranked by the Top 100 Golf Courses of the World as the best golf course in Poland and 84th on the list of Top 100 Golf Courses in Continental Europe. It is also the second longest Par 72 course in Europe at 7,101 meters and one of the most challenging golf courses in the world. The well–known course architect, Mr. Jeremy Turner when designing the course said: "The Course itself







will be quite spectacular with the magnificent lake offering breathtaking possibilities for dramatic golf holes. "What I have tried to do with this beautiful tract of land was to create a golf course that is really a challenge to a top player. At the same time, I wanted to make it very enjoyable for the higher handicap golfers also."

"My firm belief is that this course will provide a stimulating golf experience of which one will never tire. It will most certainly be a course with which I shall be proud to have been associated."

The course is built according to the strict USGA standards and the Club has already staged many major championships, which include:

- The Polish Open Golf Championship 1997, 1998, 2007
- 2002 The 22nd European Boys Team Championship
- 2008 The European Mid-Amateur Championship
- 2015 EGA European Team Championship For further information visit the website: www.postolowo.com, Email: office@postolowo.com or Tel. +48 58 683 71 00

Golf Clubs in the Masuria Lake District (near Olsztyn)

MASURIA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

An 18-hole golf course

The (par 72) golf course is of Championship standard and was designed by Hawtree Ltd from the UK, the world's oldest golf course architects, with Martin Hawtree at its helm. The company began operating in 1912 and since that time has been continuously designing, building and modernising golf courses. To date, Hawtree Golf Course Architects have been involved in about 750 projects throughout the world! The design of the golf course at the Masuria Golf & Country Club was the first undertaking by Hawtree Ltd in this part of Europe.

The fundamental aim of the designer was to utilise the extraordinary beauty of the Warmian landscape without causing undue interference to the natural environment. The diversity of the terrain at the MG &

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CC golf course and its exceptional location make it extremely appealing for every golfer, either the experienced or the novice. Thanks to its numerous natural and man-made obstacles, the course in Naterki is one of the most interesting but also one of the most difficult courses in Poland.

For further information visit the website: www.mazurygolf.pl

MARINA GOLF CLUB

The 5-Star Marina Golf Club is a unique hotel in the Masuria District, where its stark Scandinavian architecture is combined with the charm of the Land of a Thousand Lakes that is still untouched by

It is the perfect location to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and surrender to the relaxation provided by its spa zone. Windows in every room offer visitors panoramic views over Lake Wulpinski while the extensive leisure facilities will undoubtedly keep guests entertained throughout their entire stay.

For further information visit the website www.marinagolfclub.pl

SAND VALLEY

Sand Valley is a club built for its members to enjoy. It was also available for their guests to remember and cherish. It's hoped that the members will, on a daily basis, embrace the challenge offered by the classic golf course that is exposed to the elements of wind, rain and drought. Also that guests will head home with memories of every single golf hole they have just played.

Playing golf in Sand Valley is different to most modern golf courses. They believe that golf is best played, by friends against each other vs. playing for scores, and that walking is an essential part of a great round of golf.

Sand Valley offers wide and rumpling fairways, and heavily contoured greens. This is how the course has been designed and built, and how it is maintained. Providing firm and fast conditions throughout the golf course makes for a rewarding experience for all levels of golfers.

Sand Valley looks and plays different than most modern courses, as designers Lassi Pekka Tilander and Tony Ristola have created a course that in many ways resembles the grand golf courses built during the early 20th century.

The construction and on-site design work was led by Tony Ristola, whose incredible craftsmanship can be seen throughout the course. Lassi Pekka Tilander is responsible for the natural routing of the course and with that majority of the strategies for golf holes. But most importantly, both golf course architects involved in the project have been working under the premise that Sand Valley should embrace the design ideals of early twentieth century, when a great majority of the most legendary golf courses were created.

The result is that playing golf in Sand Valley is very different to most modern golf courses. The fairways are very wide, there is very little water in play, there is no penalizing bunkers and the course is always maintained firm and fast. In fact, despite not being a seaside course, there are few courses that play more links—like than Sand Valley. Also, the course is not difficult per se, but was designed to test the players' judgment, decision—making and shot making skills.

Certainly the players who are unwilling to adjust their game to the prevailing conditions will make the course play difficult. Conversely, those who successfully take on the challenge of planning their way around the golf course will be rewarded by good scores and a wonderful feeling of having overcome a true test of golf.

For more information contact the club manager at email: pawel.osiak@sandvalley.pl or visit the website www.sandvalley.pl

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