

CABO INTRODUCES QUIVIRA'S MAJESTY

By Dave Weretka

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There are hundreds of words in the English dictionary that can be used to describe golf courses designed by the great Jack Nicklaus. Here are a few that you would never use: bland, predictable, boring, and cakewalk. After nearly 300 layouts in 36 countries, the Golden Bear has proven time and time again that he can change ground into golf courses with the best in the business.

In 2014, one of Nicklaus' newest tracks opened with well-deserved praise. Quivira Golf Club is located at the tip of the Baja Peninsula, just minutes from downtown Cabo San Lucas. Quivira is Nicklaus' sixth course in the Cabo area and it's open for

play to guests of one of the Pueblo Bonito Oceanfront Resort and Spas, or to those lucky enough to reside in the area.

If there's one constant with all Jack Nicklaus designs, it's that Nicklaus doesn't pay much attention to other courses in the area in which he builds. Sticking with that mantra, Quivira is spiced with "Jack's Stamps" as it redefines golf within the Cabo limits.

The \$40-million championship layout stretches 7,139 yards from the tips and has five sets of tees to ensure every level of player can take part in the experience that is Quivira Golf Club. The course boasts scenery

unlike anything you've experienced as it rises and falls through sand dunes and granite cliffs. Quivira's oceanfront exposure is the most of any course in Cabo, but it's the journey in your golf cart and the panoramic views on the tees and greens that are truly breathtaking.

"We tried to create some excitement on the mountain and in the dunes," said Nicklaus. "I believe we've created a golf course that plays as spectacular as it looks. It has some absolutely unbelievable vistas. The views from the course are really beautiful."

A round at Quivira begins at sea level as you wind through desert

landscape and low land areas on holes one through four. As you continue to climb in elevation, so can the numbers on your scorecard.

As you continue to the fifth hole you should prepare yourself for sensory overload as your cart ride crosses arroyos and scales a mountain. Your trek will also bring you to one of Quivira's comfort stations, which feature Bloody Marys, tequila (no surprise there), fish tacos, and shrimp quesadillas. When you arrive at the tee box you will now be nearly 28 stories above sea level for the par 4 playing at 310 yards. Long hitters can certainly go for it as the green is over 100 feet below the tee. A rock



wall and enormous hidden bunker on the left side of the green doesn't leave much room for error though.

Another camera-ready hole is the par 3, 13th, which maxes out at only 148 yards, but never judge a book by its cover. The green looks to be a carpet sample from the tee box as it sits atop a shelf of granite that rises 150 feet from the sand and waves. In true Nicklaus fashion, he does give you a bailout area, this one being on the left side of the green. Accuracy is your best friend on this hole.

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If any professional golfer, past or current, has been a proponent for the golf ball flying too far these days it's been Jack Nicklaus. So there might be some reasoning behind Quivira's par 5s being absolute monsters. At 616, 554, 635, and 564 yards respectively, long and accurate drives set the tone on these holes. And if you're doing the math, that's just over 33% of the total yardage of the course.

All eighteen holes at Quivira Golf Club are memorable, and you'll be ready for your second go at it the moment you walk off of the course. But before you shuttle back to your resort, a visit to the 19th hole is a must. The open air, grass-thatched roof makes this clubhouse truly



unique. It sits just above the sandy beach between holes one and eighteen and is an incredible setting to say the least. If you're looking to cap off your day with one of the best dinners in Cabo, The Steakhouse offers food as good as the views.

Quivira Golf Club is just one of the many amenities available to guests staying at one of the four Pueblo Bonito Oceanfront Resort and Spas. Each resort offers an all-inclusive option no matter what you're looking for, there is a property that can meet your needs. Whether it's a golf-only trip or a romantic getaway, Pueblo Bonito offers it.

After your stay it will be easy to find why *Travel & Leisure* recognized the resorts with their 2014 World's Best Awards for Top Hotels & Resorts in Mexico. If you are ready for more golf in Cabo, visit www.pueblobonito.com and www.quiviragolfclub.com.

