



FEATURES

The Top Luxury Hotel Golf Courses in the World

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Reynolds Lake Oconee, Greensboro, Georgia, USA



Spectacular. That was the word Jack Nicklaus found himself saying again and again back in October when he toured his renovated and redesigned Great Waters Course at Reynolds Lake Oconee. Originally built by Nicklaus in 1992, Great Waters — as it exists today — shines for many of the same reasons that made the course compelling more than 25 years ago; mostly, it's the layout's location along the shores of Lake Oconee. "It's one of the really great pieces of property with which I have ever had the experience to work," Nicklaus says. "The first time I went to Reynolds, I knew we had the potential to have a great golf course. I think we found it then and, now, more than a quarter of a century later, a wonderful golf experience remained, but was in need of a little updating."

Overall, the course was both lengthened and shortened with the addition of two new tee boxes; trees were cleared to widen fairways and improve turf quality; bunker shapes were simplified to reflect classic aesthetics; and green complexes were completely rebuilt.

Additionally — and perhaps most significantly — a handful of fairway slopes and hillsides were lowered by as much as 10 feet to enhance or create views of the water from most vantage points on those holes. "They gave us probably more water than I would've ever asked for," Nicklaus says, reflecting on the parcel of land he was given to create the course decades ago. "You might say that I've tried to keep the water at bay," he adds, pausing to chuckle. Despite that statement, Great Waters most definitely brings Lake Oconee into play. The course's recent enhancements make that abundantly clear to first time visitors, while the enhanced views are certain to thrill those who have played the course before.

reynoldslakeoconee.com

Image: Evan Schiller Photography

Wynn Golf Club, Las Vegas