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WOMEN & GOLF

LOVE THE GAME, LIVE THE LIFE

Long Haul

Beach Anyone? How About the Beautiful Bahamas?



For holidaymakers in search of a wonderful golf course and a luxurious get away from it all resort, look no further than private international sporting club and residential community, The Abaco Club in The Bahamas.

WHEN TO GO

The temperature in The Bahamas averages between 75°F and 84°F (24°C-29°C) in both winter and summer. Hurricane season lasts from July to October. The best time to go is during the high season - November to mid-April.

WHERE TO STAY

In a stunning setting situated on 453 acres, The Abaco Club on Winding Bay is a private international sporting club and residential community, but visitors are most welcome. There is no hotel, but instead a choice of accommodation ranging from comfortable cabanas and cottage villas to magnificent oceanfront homes. The octagonal-shaped cabanas are charming, well appointed, and with a spacious living area you're guaranteed a home from home experience. For convenience, residents are allocated a four-seater golf cart for the duration of their stay. There are two dining options; either the informal Flippers Beach Bar that's open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, or for gourmet fare, The Cliff House, which as the name suggests, is perched on the club's highest elevation.

WHERE TO PLAY

The 18-hole golf course, designed by Brits Donald Steel and Tom Mackenzie, is ranked as the No 1 course in The Bahamas. It's a Scottish styled links course with firm and fast rolling undulating fairways, large greens, gruelling pot bunkers, but sunshine, palm trees and conch shells as tee markers, impart a tropical flavour to this testing course. Influenced by the sight and sound of the Atlantic, the majority of holes cannot be anything other than visually attractive. The closing stretch, 15-18 is dramatic and memorable, including the downhill par-3 17th that slopes to the sea and thrilling par-5 finale to an elevated green from which the crashing waves almost feel in touching distance.

WHEN YOU'RE NOT GOLFING

The Abaco Club is a lifestyle; there are so many activities to enjoy aside from golf. The soft, white sandy beach of the crescent-shaped bay stretches for two and a half miles and there's an extensive selection of water sports on offer, along with tennis courts, an outdoor infinity pool and a spa. Deep sea fishing is a very popular pastime off the shores of Abaco, as you don't have to travel far off shore for deep waters.

Days out will often revolve around the water. For example, a boat trip from Little Harbour to Man-O-War Cay, a small island known as the boat-building capital of The Bahamas, is worth adding to an itinerary, along with a stop for lunch at the Firefly Bar & Grill at Elbow Cay, where corn fritters, jerk chicken and blackened shrimp are just some of the traditional Bahamian dishes on the menu.

At Little Harbour, another must-visit is Pete's pub, a casual, sand-between-your-toes outdoor pub that is popular with locals and visitors alike. The pub's signature cocktail, the Blaster, including five different rums and three fruit juices, is highly recommended!

For more information visit: Theabacoclub.com