

Attracting golfers north

Leelanau, Treetops offer play and stay packages

A cooperative marketing effort is in place to attract golfers to northern Michigan's Leelanau County.

The Links of Leelanau offers 54 championship holes of golf, and an executive, par 3 course all in the heart of one of Michigan's most pristine counties. The cooperative marketing group includes two 18-hole courses at the King's Challenge Facility — King's Challenge Golf Club, designed by Arnold Palmer, and Sleeping Bear Golf Club. The third 18-hole course is Suttons Bay's Leelanau Club at Bahie Farms, which boasts a creative blend of natural beauty and challenging terrain.

Each of the Links of Leelanau golf courses offer spectacular views of water.

Leelanau County's three premiere golf facilities have partnered with The Homestead Resort and Ridgeview Properties to offer play and stay packages beginning at \$83 per person per day. Lodging packages include

hotel, studio, townhouse, and condominium style accommodations.

In addition, Gaylord's Treetops Resort is offering several golf package opportunities.

The Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum packages all offer one-night accommodations, 18 holes of golf, and range balls, with optional upgrades to include meals if desired. Package prices range from \$69 to \$177 depending on course selection and meal options.

Treetops most popular golf package is the Championship Package. This package includes two nights accommodations, four rounds of golf (one on each course), range balls, and two breakfasts. Prices range from \$272 to \$420 depending on the time of the year.

Treetops also offers numerous golf schools, and is home to one of the leading golf instructors in the world, and now resort owner, Rick Smith. The Rick Smith Golf Academy has drawn

mainstream golfers and tour players alike and was selected as one of the "Top 25 Golf Schools" in America.

For the seventh consecutive year, The "Just Fore Ladies" Golf School will be an integral part of the golf programs offered. The ladies golf school package is \$519 and includes three night accommodations, daily instruction, video analysis, and unlimited golf and meals.

Treetops Resort, boasts 81 holes of championship golf by designers Robert Trent Jones, Sr., Tom Fazio and Rick Smith. Treetops is a five-time recipient of Golf Magazine's "Silver Medal Resort" award and is rated No. 32 in America's Top 75 Golf Resorts by Golf Digest. Treetops golf is also known nationally for its unique Rick Smith designed Par 3 course, "Treetops", which has been the annual host of the ESPN Par-3 Shootout since its inception in 1999.



Elaine Crosby and Brad Dean will run a women's-only golf school at Crystal Mountain.

Crosby returns to Crystal

LPGA Tour player will be part of women's-only school


LPGA Tour player Elaine Crosby will be re-joining the golf staff at Crystal Mountain this season. Crosby will be the resort's "Golf Ambassador." A Michigan native, Crosby is a 17-year veteran of the LPGA Tour during which time she recorded two tournament wins and countless top 10 finishes.

She is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Business Administration, where she earned varsity letters in golf and tennis.

Among her many roles, Crosby will teach alongside Brad Dean, the 2002 Michigan Section PGA Golf Professional 1998 and 2000 Michigan Section PGA Teacher of the Year and Crystal's director of golf, in conducting a women's-only golf school. That is in addition to the 80-plus golf schools that Dean and his staff of seven PGA professionals offer at The Crystal Mountain Golf School.

"The addition of Elaine to our teaching staff last year really fine-tuned the instructional offerings that we have at The Crystal Mountain Golf School," Dean said. "Students really benefited from Crosby's experience and course management expertise that comes from her 15 years on the LPGA Tour."

Crosby was a member of the LPGA Executive Committee and served as president in 1994. While playing the tour, Elaine worked on her own game with such notables: Jim Flick, Rick Smith, Janet LePera and David Leadbetter. She also worked with sports psychologists Dr. Deborah Graham and Dr. Linda Bunker.



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