

# America's Summer Golf Capital

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without actually visiting Scotland. For more information on the resort, which also features three other courses, check out [www.lakewoodshores.com](http://www.lakewoodshores.com). It's quite a layout.

Black Lake Golf Club, located near Onaway, came in with No. 87 ranking. This classic Rees Jones design is owned and operated by the United Auto Workers, but is open for limited public play. This 7,000-yard course features wide, sweeping, tree-lined fairways, subtle bunkering and the deceptive, undulating greens he and his prestigious father, Robert Trent Jones, are known for. To check out the layout or book a tee time, click on [www.black-lakegolf.com](http://www.black-lakegolf.com).

Tullymore, which came in at No. 88, is located near Big Rapids and part of the beautiful St. Ives Resort. Designed by award winning golf course architect Jim Engh, it features holes routed through beautiful rolling land, wetland areas of great contrast and color, and dramatic finger-like bunkering filled with white sugar-like sand. The greens offer a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Tullymore was also selected as one of the "Best New Upscale Public Courses" when it first opened a couple of years ago. For more information on the resort and the course, visit [www.tullymoregolf.com](http://www.tullymoregolf.com).

*Golf Digest* recently included five northern Michigan golf resorts in its "Top 75 Golf Resorts in America" listing. Its panel of 700 raters were asked to rate over 225 of the leading golf resorts in the country for the first time ever in the publication's history. A resort had to be named on at least 35 ballots to be included in the top 75.

Boyer USA led the way placing all three of its resorts on the prestigious list including Bay Harbor Golf Club No. 20 and Boyne Highlands and Boyne Mountain tied at No. 42. Rounding out the list for Michigan resorts, Treetops Resort came in at No. 32 and Shanty Creek at No. 59.

In addition to Bay Harbor's 27 holes, Boyne Highlands, located near Harbor Springs lures golfers with 72 holes of championship golf led by the Robert Trent Jones, Sr., designed Heather

Course and the popular Donald Ross Memorial Course. The new 18-hole Arthur Hills course features large sand waste bunkers and dramatic elevation changes. Boyne Mountain features 36 holes of golf including the classic Alpine and Monument courses. Future plans call for a Pete Dye designed golf course.

Treetops Resort's brace of four championship courses were designed by Robert Trent Jones, Sr., Tom Fazio and managing partner and acclaimed teaching guru Rick Smith. Panoramic views, which on some holes extend for 30 miles or more, look over lush, forested river valleys. The holes are breathtaking in their natural beauty and a delight to play. The resort is also home to Threetops, its widely acclaimed par-three, 18-hole golf course that is featured on ESPN in its annual par-three shootout. Masters champ Phil Mickelson will once again be playing in this year's foursome in the televised event. For more information on the resort and its courses, click on [www.treetops.com](http://www.treetops.com).

Shanty Creek encompasses three distinct villages and four championship golf courses gracefully spread out over 4,500 acres. Included in the quartet of courses is The Legend, which was designed by Arnold Palmer, and Cedar River, designed by Tom Weiskopf. Winding through beautiful hills and ridges, some with a view of Lake Bellaire, both courses have been voted among the top resort courses in the country. For more information on the resort, its villages and courses, visit [www.shantycreek.com](http://www.shantycreek.com).

*Golf For Women* recently announced its "50 Best Public and Resort Courses for Women" list, and both Crystal Mountain Resort and Boyne Highlands received high marks.

They invited a first-class panel of prominent women to assemble the prestigious list, and they were asked to take into account not only the quality of golf but also the entire experience — from atmosphere to amenities. They looked at the layouts, service, options available, programs, female professionals on staff, extras such as spa, childcare and even cuisine options.

Crystal has proven a favorite of the magazine. This time they

received a national No. 24 rating for the Mountain Ridge Course. A couple of years ago they rated the resort's instructional program for women among the top five in the nation. The resort features two 18-hole layouts, the classic Betsie Valley Course and the stunning Mountain Ridge course, which meanders up into the surrounding Buck Hills offering some great panoramic views. For more information on the resort and its many critically acclaimed teaching programs, click on [www.crystalmountain.com](http://www.crystalmountain.com).

The Heather Course at Boyne Highlands received a No. 49 rating.

"It's the course that started the Northern Michigan golf phenomenon, and has always stepped up to meet the challenge of attracting women golfers," said the magazine.

*Travel and Leisure Golf* just selected its first annual listing of top golf resorts around the county, and five of them are from Northern Michigan. There were more resorts selected from Michigan than any other state in the region.

Those honored were Bay Harbor, Boyne Highlands, Treetops, Shanty Creek and Grand Traverse Resort and Spa. All five Michigan resorts were selected in the top 25 in all resort categories.

The magazine developed the list through an online survey for its readers. Participants were asked to rate resorts in such categories as best family resort, best course conditions, best staff, best service, best food, best for a golf-intensive buddy trip, most underrated resorts and best public courses.

The Grand Traverse Resort and Spa features three outstanding golf courses, including the Jack Nicklaus designed Bear and Gary Player's Wolverine. For more information about the resort and its golf programs, visit [www.grandtraverseresort.com](http://www.grandtraverseresort.com).

These awards along with a *Golf Digest* determination that Northern Michigan is the 12th best golf destination in the world — eighth best in the United States — continues to give credibility to the moniker "America's Summer Golf Capital."

It's a lot closer than you think.