

GOLF PRO'S VIEW

HOW OUR PRO'S DESCRIBE THE EAST COURSE

The East Course at The Rayleigh Club is an excellent course for the casual, beginner or junior golfer. At 4600 yards it's playable, but challenging. This is mostly due to the hilly layout and small greens.

1ST HOLE

"The 1st hole is a testing par 4, which dog-legs 90 degrees from right to left. Play straight up the fairway off the tee, or try and carry the trees and out of bounds down the left, to drive the green in one."

2ND HOLE

"The 2nd hole is a lovely par 3. This hole is dominated by a large water hazard down the left that cuts back in towards the green. The hazard will catch any shot hit left off the tee."

3RD HOLE

"The 3rd is the longest par 4 on the course at over 400 yards. It dog-legs gently from right to left off the tee through a narrow gap. Then the hole is very straight towards a very narrow, well bunkered green."

4TH HOLE

"Heading back towards the clubhouse you are faced with a par 4, this has a 90 degree dog-leg from right to left. And you will often be playing a shot from an awkward lie. The big hitters can try to cut the corner but this will mean aiming tight to the out of bounds."

5TH HOLE

"A 370-yard par 4 with no sight of the green from the tee. The last 120 yards descend very sharply downhill, so the hole can play a lot shorter than the yardage."

6TH HOLE

"The 6th is an excellent par 4. The tee shot is demanding because you have to be long enough to carry the cross hedge, anything short or miss-hit will invariably be lost in the hedge. Once negotiated the approach to this green is downhill with a hazard to the left."

7TH HOLE

"The 7th only measure's 111 yards so is a good birdie chance. Just avoid the deep pot bunker at the front left hand side of the green."

8TH HOLE

"The 8th is a challenging par 4 because the green and large hazards are not visible from the tee. The hazard is on the left side of the fairway and is some 230-yard carry from the tee, so aim down the right. This will leave you a short approach to a small green."

9TH HOLE

"The 9th is a simple par 3 that again should wield a birdie opportunity. Just get the correct club and avoid the very small bunkers."

10TH HOLE

"A nice start to the back-nine, the last 100 yards of the 10th hole run straight downhill, so a good drive around or over the bunker could run down close to the green."

11TH HOLE

"The 11th is the only par 5 on the East course, and because it is long and narrow the stroke index is 1. You will need to be very accurate with your first and second shots because the fairway narrows

to just 15 yards. Once negotiated be sure to avoid the deep pot bunker in the middle of the fairway."

12TH HOLE

"The 12th hole is a lovely downhill 130 yard par 3. Your main task is picking the correct club."

13TH HOLE

"The 13th a great short par 4. The tee shot looks very tight actually widens out after the ditch."

14TH HOLE

"Out of bounds all the way up the right on the 14th hole so don't be greedy, just continue to play down the left until the green is in sight."

15TH HOLE

"An extraordinary par 4 waits at the 200 yard 15th. Because of the huge right to left dog-leg, the direct line from tee to green is only 150 yards however taking this line is blind and dangerous. The safe way to play the hole is to follow the dog-leg around, usually by using just a medium iron to tee off with."

16TH HOLE

"The 16th is a short uphill par 3 that should give a birdie opportunity, just two bunkers guard the right hand side of this green."

17TH HOLE

"A very short but well protected par 3 at the 17th. If you can select the correct club you again will have a good birdie chance."

18TH HOLE

"The 18th is a lovely hole to complete your round on the East Course. From the elevated tee you have a pleasant view of both the hole in front of you and the clubhouse beyond. The hole becomes very narrow towards the green because of a large water hazard to the left. The green is also protected by a large bunker at the front right."