

Pinehurst Golf & History Vacation

This area of rolling sandhills is covered with classic golf courses, so golfers of all skill levels will enjoy the magnificent links the area has to offer. However, you'll also enjoy the many historic sites in this section of the south central Piedmont. Either way, this 3-day itinerary will teach you much about your game and the region's fascinating history.

3-Day Itinerary

Day 1

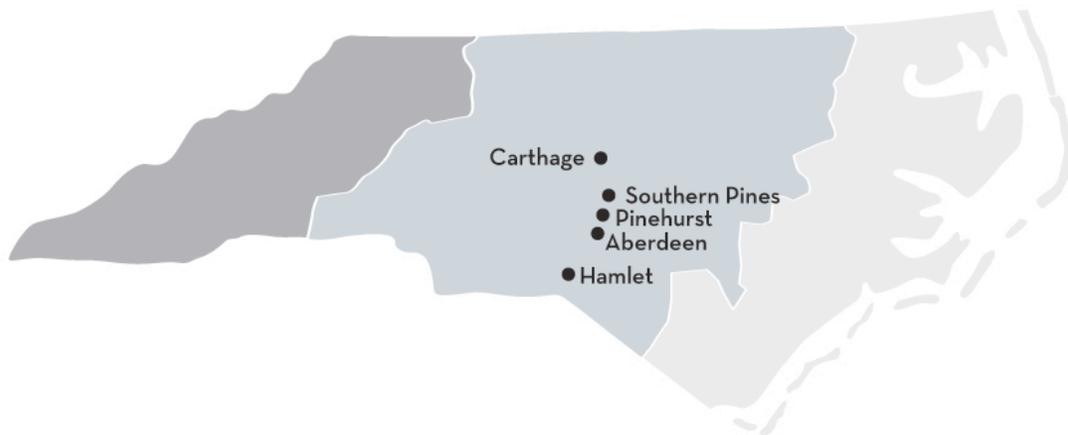
Play a premier golf course, taste some classic Carolina 'cue, and tour an 18th-century cotton plantation.

Day 2

Another 18 holes beckons, as well as a look at some literary masters and a hike through a peaceful nature preserve.

Day 3

Take your game up a notch at a Q-school course, and discover the colorful history of railroads in this part of the Piedmont.



With so much to see and do in the area, we recommend the following 3-day itinerary. Enjoy your visit by mixing and matching events to your particular interest. Be sure to check days and hours of operation for each venue.

Day One

Spend your first morning testing your skills on a Dan Maples-designed premier golf course. **Little River Golf & Resort** rests on the site of a former equestrian landmark and offers the golfer 200-foot elevation changes with narrow rivers and thick forests on its 6939, par 72 layout. The course rating is 73.5 and it has a slope rating of 134 on Bermuda grass.

Afterward, head into the town of **Carthage** for a great Sandhills barbecue lunch at the family owned **Pik N Pig** before you begin your exploration of the area's history at the **Bryant House** and **McLendon Cabin**. These two structures serve as a museum of daily life in the 18th and 19th Centuries and are maintained by the Moore County Historical Association. Check for opening times before you go.

The **Carthage Historical Museum** houses 200 years of artifacts pertaining to local history. **Carthage** was once the home of a renowned buggy factory and several exhibits celebrate this fact. From here, head north of Carthage to the **House in the Horseshoe**, a pre-Revolutionary War era cotton plantation. The name comes from its location on a bend in the Deep River. The house features period furnishings and was once the home of Governor Benjamin Williams. Afterward, head back to **Carthage** for a casual dinner at **Derby's Ale House**.

Day Two

Day two finds you on the Reese Jones designed course at **Talamore Golf Club**. This par 71, 6840-yard course has a 72.9 rating and with a slope of 142 on Bermuda grass, and is ranked in the Top 100 Courses on Golfink.

After your round, head to the **Southern Pines Historic District** for a little shopping and browsing. Have lunch at **Café Iano** where the lobster rolls are a specialty, then learn more about the history of **Southern Pines** at the **Shaw House Properties**. This collection of three historic museum houses depicts the daily life of the early Scottish settlers. Then it's on to the **Weymouth Center for the Arts & Humanities** and the **North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame**. Once the home of novelist James Boyd, author of *Drums* and *Bitter Creek*, the center sits on 24 acres surrounded by stately longleaf pines and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Finish the day with a walk in nearby **Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve**. The preserve has nearly 900 acres of wildflowers, wildlife, streams and ponds, four and one-half miles of hiking trails, and an interactive museum. Enjoy a relaxing dinner at **Ironwood Café** or **Chef Warren's**.

Day Three

On day three, take your golf game to school at **Deercroft**. This classic Sandhills layout has been ranked in GOLFWEEK's Top 50 Courses and has hosted the PGA Tour Qualifying School Tournament. Golf Digest called **Deercroft** "the best kept secret in the Sandhills." Located south of **Aberdeen**, this par 72, 6566-yard course has a rating of 72.1 with a slope rating of 130 on Bermuda grass, and it will teach you something about your game.

When the course is finished with you, explore some of the area's history, beginning with the **National Railroad Museum & Hall of Fame**, Inc. in the hamlet of **Hamlet**. A testament to the town's once significant place as a major railroad crossroads, the museum exhibits railroad memorabilia, a model railroad layout, and a re-created telegraph office. It is housed in a former railroad depot, circa 1900, whose late Victorian architecture has made it one of the most photographed stations in the eastern US. Have lunch at the **Seaboard Station Restaurant** for some great Southern cooking.

Afterward, scoot up US Highway 1 to **Aberdeen** for a tour of **Malcolm Blue Farm**. This circa 1825 Scottish farm in features a museum, a restored farmhouse and a gristmill. Down the road, visit the 1790 **Bethesda Church and Cemetery** with its **Old Slave Gallery** and graves of area pioneer settlers. Look in the church walls for bullet holes from a Civil War battle. Continue to the **Historic District of Aberdeen** to browse the antiques shops and art galleries, and finish the day with dinner at **Thai Orchid Restaurant**, a local favorite for Thai food.

Where To Stay:

Little River Golf & Resort (Carthage) – This full service resort offers two bedroom villas with full kitchens, high speed Internet access and an outdoor pool.

Talamore Golf Club (Southern Pines) – Villas featuring two or three bedrooms with baths, full kitchens, outdoor pool and walking trail.

Inn at Bryant House (Aberdeen) – A historic bed and breakfast inn in the Aberdeen Historic District which offers rooms with antiques, full gourmet breakfast and free wireless Internet.

Where To Eat:

Pik N Pig (Carthage) – lunch, dinner

Derby's Ale House (Carthage) – breakfast, lunch, dinner

Café Iano (Southern Pines) – lunch, Fri/Sat dinner

Ironwood Cafe (Southern Pines) – dinner, Sunday brunch

Chef Warren's (Southern Pines) - dinner

Seaboard Station Restaurant (Hamlet) - lunch

Thai Orchid Restaurant (Aberdeen) – lunch, dinner

For more information, contact:

Pinehurst, Southern Pines, Aberdeen Area CVB

www.homeofgolf.com

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