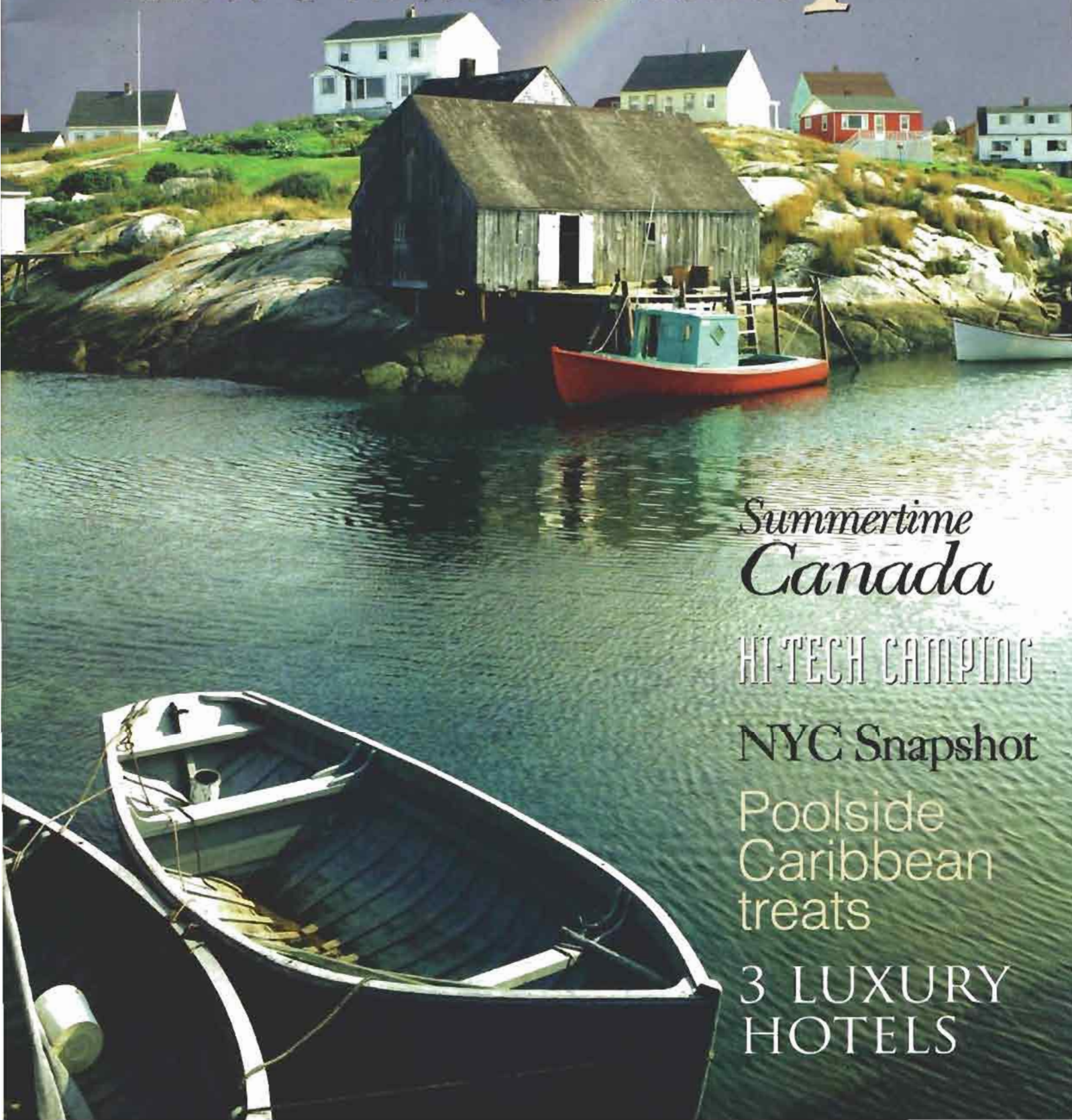


# DreamScapes

TRAVEL & LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE



*Summertime  
Canada*

HI-TECH CAMPING

NYC Snapshot

Poolside  
Caribbean  
treats

3 LUXURY  
HOTELS

# Different STROKES

BY DONNA CARTER

## NEW CANADIAN COURSES OFFER VARIETY

### LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

accompanied by a craving to know what's new in terms of course development across Canada so here's the buzz on some of the choices for the 2006 season.

These words are music to the ears of Canadian golfers as another season on the links unfolds. Moreover, an eagerness to get back on fairways and greens is typically accom-

#### **Atlantic Canada**

Heralded as the latest, greatest news on Newfoundland's golf scene is the first full season for the 18-hole Humber Valley Resort course ([humbervalley.com](http://humbervalley.com)). Situated near The Rock's west coast near Corner Brook, this par 72 Doug Carrick-designed creation features wide fairways, 103 bunkers, 300 feet of elevation changes and spectacular views of Deer Lake and the Humber River. The golf club and resort complex is an ambitious development, which also includes a number of rental chalets that blend with Newfoundland's remarkable natural landscape.



## AND CHALLENGE

Per capita and for its size, tiny Prince Edward Island continues to lead the way with the highest density of courses of any Canadian province. Among its 31 tracks, Andersons Creek ([andersonscreek.com](http://andersonscreek.com)) near Cavendish remains the newest to entice golfers to the island dubbed the Myrtle Beach of the north. This 18-hole course that opened in 2004 and boasts one of the most creative layouts on PEI, joins other island favourites like The Links at Crowbush Cove, Bridenell and Dumdare.

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LE QUÉBEC  MARITIME

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Côte-Nord, Îles de la Madeleine



The Raven Golf Club at Lora Bay, Ontario *Intrawest Golf*

## *Canadian Shield* TERRAIN

### Central Canada

Ontario historically sprouts new courses every season and this year will be no different. Set to open in July, Muskoka Bay Golf Club ([muskokabay.com](http://muskokabay.com)) north of Toronto is a Carrick-designed layout featuring plenty of the Muskoka region's massive rock outcroppings not unlike the area's other well-known courses such as The Rock and Rocky Crest. "This track will be a dramatic and spectacular addition to the Muskoka golf scene," says Carrick. Adding to the existing attraction of the Muskoka Golf Trail, consisting of six spectacular tracks sculpted from a Canadian Shield terrain, the new Muskoka Bay G.C. will serve to sweeten the pot.

Also much anticipated is the July 2006 opening of the new Raven Golf Club at Lora Bay near Thornbury ([intrawestgolf.com/raven\\_lorabay](http://intrawestgolf.com/raven_lorabay)). Situated in the beautiful Blue Mountains on the shores of Georgian Bay, the 7,200-yard Raven is a championship layout co-designed by PGA Tour pro Tom Lehman and Thomas

McBroom, one of Canada's premiere golf course architects. Part of the Intrawest family, it is the company's first Raven course in Canada joining six others located in Arizona, Florida, Colorado and West Virginia.

Québec likewise continues to enhance its inventory of great courses. Just 20 minutes from downtown, the one-year-old South Course at the Montréal Golf Club ([cgimgolf.com](http://cgimgolf.com)) reflects the cultural background of its Irish-born architect Pat Ruddy. Three double greens, 71 pot bunkers and 50-foot-high dunes provide an elevated level of challenge yet five sets of tee boxes make the course playable for all skill levels. This club also has an 18-hole North Course plus a teaching academy.

Another of *la belle province's* new courses is La Tempête ([golflatempete.com](http://golflatempete.com)), an 18-hole Darryl Huxham creation at Breakeyville near Ste-Foy. Making its debut late last year, it measures more than 7,000 yards and features bent grass fairways and greens and more than 70 sand traps.

## The Prairies

Saskatchewan golf got a huge shot in the arm last year with the opening of Dakota Dunes (dakotadunes.ca), an 18-hole stunner near Saskatoon. Co-designed by Graham Cook and Wayne Carlton, it was voted best new course in North America in 2005 by Golf Digest magazine. Built on Whitecap Dakota First Nation lands, this remarkable track featuring huge, impeccable greens embodies a links-style layout reminiscent of PEI's Crowbush Cove without the water. This championship course offers one of the best deals in the country with green fees of \$36.

Manitoba's latest 18-hole addition is the Lake of the Sandhills Golf Course (sandhills.ca). Located in the southeastern corner of the province, bordering Lake of the Woods, its

championship layout has five waterside holes with the remaining 13 meandering over beautifully wooded, rolling terrain. A key feature of the course is its large challenging bunkers.

## Western Canada

Over the past three years it's the Edmonton area that has blossomed forth to boost Alberta's more than 275 courses including world-renowned layouts like Banff Springs Golf Club, Jasper Park Lodge and Kananaskis. Among the newcomers is the Nicklaus-designed Northern Bear (northernbeargolf.com) nominated for Golf Digest's best new course in 2005. This championship track follows Oakville, Ontario's Glen Abbey and Whistler, B.C.'s Nicklaus North with the distinction of being Jack Nicklaus' only third Canadian Signature daily fee course.



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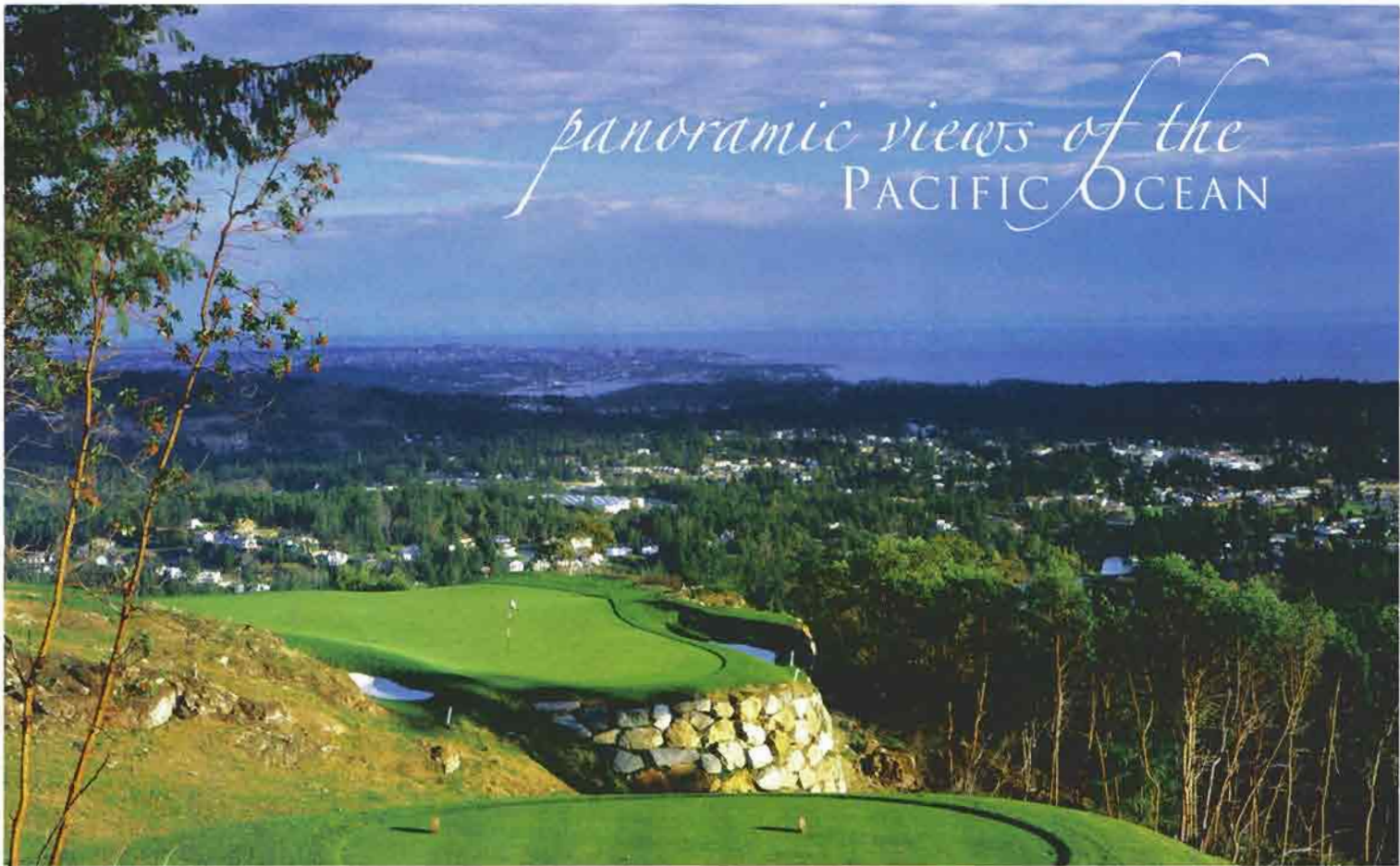
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# panoramic views of the PACIFIC OCEAN



**Bear Mountain Golf & Country Club, BC** *The Westin Bear Mountain Victoria Golf Resort & Spa*

The “Bear’s” design for this layout incorporates a tactical blend of tree-lined fairways, strategic bunker placements, five lakes and USGA standard greens. Shortly after its debut the course received a glowing endorsement from Mike Weir who claimed that Northern Bear is unquestionably qualified to host a pro tournament like the Canadian Open.

Alberta golf course architect Rod Whitman, whose talents were influenced by the renowned Pete Dye, also made a mark with the creation of the Blackhawk Golf Club in 2003 ([play-blackhawk.com](http://blackhawk.com)). Just minutes from Edmonton this stunning layout weaves through the scenic Saskatchewan River Valley and incorporates plunging elevation changes and pleasant river views.

Also a newcomer to the Edmonton scene is the Red Tail Landing Golf Club ([redtaillanding.com](http://redtaillanding.com)). Opened in 2003, this is a long course (7,322 yards) that weaves its way among natural wetlands and lakes, and hazards come into play with significant mounding and masses of natural grass.

The buzz in British Columbia golf circles continues to be focused on Vancouver Island’s Bear Mountain Resort course ([bearmountain.ca](http://bearmountain.ca)). Two

years old, this first-ever design collaboration between Jack and Steve Nicklaus boasts a series of panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean, the city of Victoria and surrounding mountains. This premiere course offers a challenging layout that embodies every bit of the creativity golfers expect from a Nicklaus-designed track. Also on the property is a full-service spa, restaurant, clubhouse and a Westin Hotel set to open this month. The long-term vision for the resort is a plan to mould it into a mini-Whistler including a second world-class golf course.

## Northwest Territories

As a golf destination, the Northwest Territories are arguably the most unique in all of Canada. It’s a place where golfers can tee off at midnight and also boast that they played a round north of the Arctic Circle. The season for golf in the Territories runs from May to September and although most of the courses are nine hole tracks, the Yellowknife Golf Club ([ykgolf.com](http://ykgolf.com)), just two kilometres from the Yellowknife airport, recently grew from nine to 18 holes. The course’s sand fairways and artificial greens contribute to the unique nature of golf in the Far North. ■

### travel planner

For more information on golf travel across Canada, and in some cases free golf guides, contact the provincial and territories tourism offices:

Newfoundland: [gov.nl.ca/tourism](http://gov.nl.ca/tourism); 1-800-563-6353;

Prince Edward Island: [gov.pe.ca/visitorsguide](http://gov.pe.ca/visitorsguide);  
1-866-GOLF-PEI

Nova Scotia: [novascotia.com](http://novascotia.com); 1-800-565-0000

New Brunswick: [tourismnewbrunswick.ca](http://tourismnewbrunswick.ca);  
1-800-561-0123

Quebec: [bonjourquebec.com](http://bonjourquebec.com); 1-800-363-7777

Ontario: [ontariotravel.net](http://ontariotravel.net); 1-800-ONTARIO

Manitoba: [travelmanitoba.com](http://travelmanitoba.com); 1-800-665-0040

Saskatchewan: [sasktourism.com](http://sasktourism.com); 1-877-237-2273

Alberta: [travelalberta.com](http://travelalberta.com); 1-800-ALBERTA

British Columbia: [hellobc.com](http://hellobc.com); 1-800-HELLO-BC

Northwest Territories: [explorenwt.com](http://explorenwt.com);  
1-800-661-0788