

Golfing is great on the mountain

Cool mountain air, scenic surroundings and an unhurried atmosphere are all features of golfing in Allegheny County. You will find pleasant elevation changes, challenging courses and mountain hospitality.

New River Country Club, just three miles from downtown Sparta, is a semi-private 18-hole course featuring 6,011 yards of golf from the longest tees and a par of 71. It is open March 15 through Nov. 15, seven days a week from 8 a.m. until dark.

Tee times are not required on weekdays, but are required on holidays and weekends June through August. It features four tees for different skill levels.

"It's a great golf course with beautiful mountain views," said Ray Billings, manager.

The club offers special rates seven days a week after 3 p.m., he added. Tuesday is ladies' day.

Find New River Country Club at 611 Golf Course Rd., Sparta, 336-372-4869, or www.newrivercountryclub.com. It can be reached from U.S. 21 North of Sparta. Coming from Sparta,

turn right just past Twin Oaks General Store.

Olde Beau Resort and Golf Club is a semi-private course in the Roaring Gap community. The 72 par course features 6,710 yards of golf from the longest tees. Three tees are available for different skill levels.

Situated on the eastern edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains, its location affords breathtaking views. "It's very serene and picturesque. We invite people to come by, relax and play," said Steve Edwards, director of golf.

Olde Beau also has tennis, swimming, hiking trails, a par 3 and other amenities, he added.

Olde Beau's course, which has been rated 4.5 stars by Fodor's, is open from late March to early December. Call for tee times, 336-363-3333 or 800-752-1634, www.oldebeauresort.com.

Olde Beau is at 729 Olde Beau Blvd. in Roaring Gap, accessible on U.S. 21 South about 11 miles from the center of Sparta.

Allegheny also has two private country club courses, each featuring 18 hole, 72 par golf in pristine terrain. Roaring Gap Golf Club and High Meadows Country Club are in the Roaring Gap

community of eastern Allegheny.

Local organizations hold a number of tournaments as annual fundraisers. Visitors are welcome at these.



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