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5 places for the family to tee up together



Family golf offers youngsters the chance to develop skills in a sport that can last a lifetime. Here are five places where your crew can tee up together.

Madden's on Gull Lake, Brainerd, Minn.

Make golf the centerpiece of your family getaway when you visit this classic Midwestern resort in the land of 10,000 lakes. Get your good-natured game on with a little croquet, horseshoes, badminton or shuffleboard competition.

Scale up with a family stroll around the Social 9, a casual, tree-studded setting where eight par threes and a lone par four provide an ideal introduction for new players or a tuneup for the more experienced. Then, test your skills on one of three longer tracks. Don't miss the Classic, where stunning views, challenging shots and punishing pin placements make for an unforgettable round.

Contact: maddens.com; exploreminnesota.com

The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Known for their impeccable service, this five-star resort's golf program has hosted national tournaments as well as families eager to enjoy the storied game. With Rocky Mountain grandeur as your backdrop, choose from three courses, each providing unique challenges and enjoyment. Kids 12 and under play free with a paying adult after 2 p.m.

Ask about complimentary Sunday afternoon family golf clinics. Beyond the links, families enjoy hiking, resort-style pools, bowling, boating and tennis.

Contact: broadmoor.com.

Terranea Resort and Spa, Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.

"Catalina looks reachable on a clear day. But focus on the green," players are advised, when surveying the The Links at Terranea's 173-yard number eight.

Keeping your head down (the key to hitting a good golf shot) is nearly impossible when tempted by the stunning views from this oceanside track. The nine-hole, par-three course offers visual drama paired with classic elements including elevation changes, contoured greens and beckoning bunkers. After your round, enjoy the family-friendly resort's recreation options, including sea kayaking, a stroll along the Discovery Trail, the Tide Water Kids Club and resort pools with more remarkable views.

Contact: terranea.com

Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Kids can make their way to the junior tees on three nine-hole tracks in a resort town where sun-drenched golf attracts professionals as well as part-time players.

Youngsters 15 and under play free with a paying adult. Junior clubs, lessons and course activities are also available. Take a break from play to ride a gondola around the lake, take a two-wheeled spin through the nearby greenbelt, visit the Native American Learning Center or cool off in the recently updated water playground. Send your clubs directly to the pro shop via Shipsticks.

Contact: scottsdale.hyatt.com; shipsticks.com



Pinehurst Resort in Pinehurst, N.C.

Check into this historic resort, the scene of many famous tournaments, including the U.S. Kids Golf World Championships, for a traditional family golf experience. Called the Cradle of American Golf, Pinehurst nurtures young players, offering junior tee markers and scorecards on all but one of nine courses. Check out Thistle Dhu, an undulating, 18-hole putting course.

Ask about family clinics, free rentals for juniors and kids stay-and-eat-free programs.

Contact: pinehurst.com.