



GOLF'S BEST NEW
DESTINATIONS

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Shadow Creek, eighth hole

Sod look at the base of Sunrise Mountain. The course and its faux-castle clubhouse, opened in 1999, are totally ersatz conceptions in this barren landscape, but it's Vegas, so somehow it works.

Located on the Strip itself within a chip shot of the action is **Bali Hai Golf Club**. This South Seas-themed design, landscaped in jasmine, honeysuckle, and thousands of date palms, is a good strategic test, its front nine staked out by flashed-face bunkers, black lava outcrops, and water hazards, its back nine routed through a U-shaped drainage basin. Bali Hai, however, is no pristine South Pacific hideaway. The golf course is located directly in the flight path of McCarran International Airport. The distractions are too great given the extravagant green fee, which at press time topped out at \$295. Within the clubhouse is Cili, a superb Balinese-themed restaurant run by Wolfgang Puck.

If you don't have time for a full round, check out the **Callaway Golf Center** near the airport, which offers an expansive grass driving range and a par-three nine-holer lit for night play. There's also **The Greens of Las Vegas**, a 24-hour putting complex that features putting surfaces inspired by Augusta National, St. Andrews, and other famous venues. The facility is located near the airport, just in case you need to drain a long one before heading home.

ONE TO WATCH

In 2004, **PGA Village at Coyote Springs** was announced as part of a planned 43,000-acre development spanning Clark and Lincoln counties north of Las Vegas. The standard-bearer for the project, which carries the imprimatur of the PGA of America, is Jack Nicklaus, who will craft a collection of courses to be marketed as "The Bear Trail." The first layout is expected to open in 2006. The center will serve as a western complement to the PGA Village in Port St. Lucie, Florida. The new destination will also be home to a PGA Learning Center and PGA Historical Center.

The PGA Village is the first part of the vast Coyote Springs project to open. Ultimately, the development could include several town centers, a range of housing options, additional golf courses, hotels, parks, and more. Because the parent company, Coyote Springs Investment, owns the site's water rights, green fee rates are expected to be lower than at comparable facilities in the area. (As much as \$50 per round pays for water at a typical Las Vegas golf course).

Wynn Las Vegas, fourth hole