

Dazzling But Demanding

Cradled between sandy dune ridges, framed by windswept sea oats and lapped by the gentle Atlantic surf, the par-5 18th hole at Wild Dunes Links is described as "a combination of Scotland and the Caribbean." It is also acclaimed by golf magazines as the "greatest finishing hole east of Pebble Beach" and "the ultimate in seaside golf in America."

Located on the northeast tip of Isle of Palms near Charleston, S.C., the Tom Fazio-designed Wild Dunes Links is part of a luxurious island resort that includes two golf courses and more than two miles of Atlantic Ocean beach.

When you play 18 at Wild Dunes, which opened in 1980, you'll experience the ever-changing personality of the South Carolina low country — from inland forests of live oaks and palmetto palms to marshfront holes bordered by tidal creeks, aquatic grasses and wading birds; and from ancient dunes 30 feet to 40 feet tall to oceanfront beaches laid flat and smooth by waves.

The drama builds until the golfer comes face to face with the sand and surf at Wild Dunes' finishing holes. The 17th, a straight-away par 4, sits so close to the Atlantic Ocean that even a moderately hooked tee shot will find the beach. But it's the 18th hole that gives pause to most golfers.

A dogleg right that hugs the beach from tee to green, the 18th begins with a tee shot to a broad fairway with nothing but deep blue sea in the background. Depending on wind conditions, the green can be easily reached in two with a bold drive that cuts the dogleg. Or it may take a true three shots for those who want to play it safe.

Regardless, the dunes, sea oats, Spanish bayonets, wax myrtles and other native plants lining both sides of the 18th make it a hole that rewards both strategic planning and accurate execution. Unfortunately for golfers, it punishes anything less.



Hole 0

■ Hole #18, Wild Dunes Links



f the Month

Golfdom

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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