



Golf legend Jack Nicklaus is revamping the course at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club in Florida. It's expected to reopen in December.

IF YOU GO

Naples is a 50-kilometre/35-minute drive south of Fort Myers and a 177-kilometre/90-minute drive west of Fort Lauderdale. The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club: 800-237-7600, 239-261-2222, naplesbeach-hotel.com; Naples, Florida. Prices fluctuate according to availability and the view. The third night is free until Sept. 30, based on availability, except U.S. holiday weekends. Until Oct. 31, rooms and suites cost about \$289-\$419 U.S. per night (with third night free); or Nov. 1-Dec. 22, that is \$329-\$599 U.S. Rates include valet or self-parking, supervised Beach Kids Club (lunch is extra), fitness centre, pools. Extra: beach setups, spa treatments, golf (reopening Dec. 2016), tennis lessons/clinics, water sports (paddleboards, kayaks), indoor spa baths. Paradise Coast Tourism: (Naples, Marco Island, Everglades): 800-688-3600, 800-2ESCAPE, www.ParadiseCoast.com.

CHECKING IN

NAPLES BEACH RESORT EVOLVES FROM FOLKSY TO FASHIONABLE



ROCHELLE LASH

The Watkins family of Florida gets it, big-time. Resort life, that is. The Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club is marking 70 years of superlative hospitality at an enviable beachfront location on the Gulf of Mexico.

The property now is run by the third generation of the family — and it is very much for families.

With \$50 million in upgrades over the past six years, Naples Beach has evolved from folksy to fashionable. It also is a good buy, with free parking, no resort fee and a third night free until Sept. 30. It is the only comprehensive, beachfront resort hotel that is close to downtown Naples — about three kilometres from the buzz of either Fifth Avenue South or Third Street.

Naples Beach is a one-stop, morning-until-night resort, with

oodles of children's recreation, terrific pools (one for adults and one for kids), golf, waterfront dining, beach shops, the Mary C. Watkins Tennis Center and live entertainment. The Clubhouse houses the spa, the golf pro shop and Broadwell's restaurant, which doubles as the 19th hole.

Footpaths wind through flower beds and groves of palm trees, connecting six sections of accommodations, from the adorable Cabana building to the more deluxe Penthouse building.

The hotel has just about everything — mother-daughter spa packages and après-sun skin care, yoga, kids' soccer and cocktails facing a dazzling Gulf sunset. All good, but to me Naples Beach's forte is its gorgeous stretch of sand along the Gulf's mellow waters. Stake out a chaise longue and swim, sun or snooze.

WHAT'S NEW

On the waterfront, Naples Beach has paddleboarding and kayaking, plus two separate swimming pools and hot tubs for adults and kids and a delightful poolside snack bar.

All of the guest rooms and suites have been redone in a perky, summery look of ocean blue and cottage white with fresh pops of lime green. There is a wide range of styles, price points and views of the gardens, the golf course or the Gulf. The Tower Building now sports new glass-fronted balconies. Some rooms have sofa beds for the kids. If you're on the lanai level at The Penthouse section, you'll have your own beachfront, shaded by eucalyptus trees.

At the spa, the summer roster includes aromatherapy showers and yoga sessions on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings. The June monthly specials will be the Ahh Package, an 80-minute hot stone or aromatherapy massage for \$179 U.S. And the Ready Pedi, \$59, starts with a detoxifying foot bath and winds up with a moisturizing paraffin treatment.

The big venture for 2016 is the total rebuilding of the golf course by champion Jack Nicklaus, working with architect John Sanford. The tees, fairways, greens and water and sand traps — every

blade of grass and scoop of earth — have been razed. The first tee-off is expected in December.

Nicklaus' history at Naples Beach began in 1951. The great champion first broke a score of 40 on nine holes when he was 11 years old. He had been golfing for only one year at that point and was on a family vacation.

The new par-71 course will have five tees ranging from 4,800 yards to more than 6,900 yards, plus a 300-yard practice and teaching range, and new golf carts with GPS.

WHAT'S FREE

The Beach Kids Club is the place to be if you're between five and 12. Children — with supervision — spend half or full days at crafts, beach games and swimming. Teens have a volleyball tournament, beach Olympics, soccer and scavenger hunts.

The Sunset Beach Bar & Grill presents a weekly Sunday Night Party and a solo guitarist Wednesday to Saturday evenings. It's a gorgeous location with the sun setting over the Gulf waters and tropical drinks and casual

fare served on the terrace.

The 31st year of the Summer Jazz on the Gulf concert series will be held on the beachfront lawn during one Saturday per month: June 25, July 16, Aug. 20 and Sept. 24.

THE FOOD

There are lots of choices: Broadwell's for breakfast buffets, brioche French toast or omelettes; the Seminole Store for cappuccino, gelato and paninis; and the poolside café for ice cream drinks and turkey club sandwiches.

The Sunset Bar & Grill, open all day and evening, does BLTs on challah, beach burgers, grouper or steak sandwiches and gorgeous salads with steak, crab cakes or shrimp.

HB's on the Gulf takes dining up a big step, with the added attraction of fiery sunsets over the water. The new-in-2016 dinner menu features such small plates as shrimp croquettes, steak tartars, roasted clams and oysters, plus main courses including salads of goat cheese, steak, fennel-and-pollen-seared scallops, clam tagliatelle, sea bass, pork rib chops, lobster and Florida snapper.

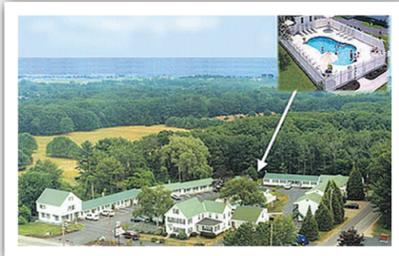
rochelle@rochellelash.com
twitter.com/rochellelash

WHERE TO STAY

TO ADVERTISE
PLEASE CALL
514-987-2279



MAINE



NER BEACH

395 Post Road, Wells, ME 04090
www.nerbeach.com
1-877-646-2636 vacations@nerbeach.com

Kick off Maine's 2016 season with a free night! Relaxing motel property conveniently located between picturesque villages of Ogunquit and Kennebunkport. Clean, comfortable rooms and efficiencies. Beautiful gardens, outdoor pool, BBQ and picnic area. Scenic 1/2 mile walk to beautiful Moody Beach. Mention this ad, or use online code 'Gazette' and when you book 2 nights, stay the 3rd free! Offer valid for reservations between May 1 - June 16, 2016. Offer excludes Victoria Day and Memorial Day weekends.



NEW YORK



AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN

www.plattsburghbestvalueinn.com
19 Booth Drive, Plattsburgh, New York
518-563-0222 Toll free 1-800-358-2137

In wonderful Plattsburgh. Only \$70 CDN (tax incl.) per room per night. Canadian cash. Up to 2 people, additional pers. add \$10 more per night. Free continental breakfast. Located conveniently off exit 37 on I-87. Some holidays, wknds & spec. events do not apply. Up to 70% occ. daily. Based on availability.



VERMONT



SMART SUITES

www.smartsuitesburlington.com
1700 Shelburne Rd., So. Burlington, Vt.
Toll free 877-862-6800

Come and enjoy our hospitality in either a studio efficiency at US \$92.00 or a more spacious one bedroom suite at US \$112.00/night including a deluxe continental breakfast and free WIFI. Mention the Gazette special. Not valid with other discounts and always subject to availability. Rates in effect May 1 - October 31, 2016. Take Exit 13 off I-89, left on Rt 7 (Shelburne Rd) for 1.5 miles. Same entrance as Holiday Inn Express.



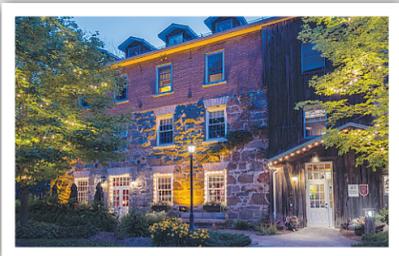
GREEN MOUNTAIN SUITES HOTEL

www.greenmountainsuites.com
401 Dorset Street, South Burlington, Vermont
Toll-free reservations 866-337-1616

Experience all the Charm of a Boutique Vermont Country Inn. Escape to beautiful Burlington, Vermont starting at \$149/night weekdays and \$139 Sundays in June. Luxurious One-Bedroom Suite includes Fireside Breakfast served each morning. Includes Fireside Reception with Beer, Wine and Dinner weekdays. Heated Indoor Pool/Jacuzzi & Exercise facility. Walking distance to University Mall and close to Lake Champlain and the Church Street Marketplace. Promotional rate may not be available during select periods. Contact hotel for more information.



QUEBEC



WAKEFIELD MILL HOTEL & SPA

FATHER'S DAY IN GATINEAU PARK

Treat Dad to a spectacular getaway minutes from Ottawa in picturesque Wakefield (Exit 28 La Pêche). Our award winning, LEED® certified hotel is the perfect choice for the special dad in your life. Maybe he would enjoy a golf getaway or a meal with the family in either our Muse Restaurant or the Heron Lounge overlooking the spectacular MacLaren Falls. Perhaps a massage (indoors or out) would recharge his batteries. The town of Wakefield and glorious Gatineau Park hiking trails are mere steps away, and our Sunday brunch is not to be missed! Live entertainment every Friday and Saturday evenings in the relaxed comfort of the Heron Lounge. Our website lists a full range of romantic getaways, golf packages, fine dining, yoga classes, gift certificates and local activities. Minutes away...a world apart. www.wakefieldmill.com 819-459-1838 #ilovewakefield