



24 brand-new golf courses expected to open in 2024

From new municipal layouts to a highly-anticipated Florida resort and several intriguing private clubs, this year is set to bestow some phenomenal golf courses on the world.

It's fair to christen this decade the "New Roaring 20s," at least as far as golf course design and development is concerned.

The 1920s constituted arguably the greatest decade in the 20th century for the flowering of great new golf courses, and the 2020s are looking extremely bright as well.

Although we may never return to the days of triple-digit annual new golf course openings, last year can be considered a full breakout from the post-Recession hangover. It featured a bumper crop of new courses across the country and wider world as golf attains new heights of popularity in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. It even featured a combination resurrection/transplant of one of the great golf courses from the pre-World War II era in The Lida at Sand Valley Golf Resort, as well as a pair of nouveau-throwback clubs not far from Augusta, Ga.: The Tree Farm and Old Barnwell.

These latter two designs featured opportunities for architects who had previously worked under more established names to sit first chair for a change and top a masthead for the first time. By all accounts, Kye Goalby at The Tree Farm and Brian Schneider and Blake Conant at Old Barnwell succeeded brilliantly.

On, then, to 2024, which should continue the theme of big debuts for shapers- and associates-turned architects. At the new Cabot Citrus Farms property in Florida, Kyle Franz will see his name in lights as a new course's architect of record for the first time, after impressing many clients with his renovation and restoration talents. In Utah, many golfers will learn the name David Boyden; his Wohali Golf Club represents a foray into new golf course design, too.

The big names of the last decade-plus remain plenty busy, too. Tom Doak and his rogues' gallery of associates continue to crisscross the world and create compelling golf. Gil Hanse and Jim Wagner are maintaining their own torrid pace with high-quality courses. And Bill Coore & Ben Crenshaw, having opened five golf courses in 2023, remain hard at work on multiple others. Other established names like Tom Fazio and Rees Jones remain in the game, too.

Though many of 2024's new courses are going to be private, there are still several exciting openings that will be accessible in some form or fashion, including three new municipal golf courses (the <u>Munaissance</u> continues apace!).

21 brand-new golf courses opening in the United States in 2024



Palmetto Bluff (Crossroads)

Bluffton, S.C. Architects: King Collins Golf

Tad King and Rob Collins continue to bring eye-catching, fun-forward golf into being throughout the United States. Their latest project is a freewheeling, reversible 9-holer on 60 acres of Lowcountry within the large, exclusive Palmetto Bluff enclave 15 miles from Hilton Head Island. The pair created eye-catching earthworks nearly 50 feet high as the stage for the golf, including large ridges and a man-made waterway bracketing part of the property. One ridge-top tee area is meant for tournament-ending shootouts, as it overlooks several greens.