

ARCANGUES GOLF COURSE

BIARRITZ, FRANCE

Golf d'Arcangues was created in the 1990's by Guy and Jean d'Arcangues on the family property that surrounds the Chateau and the village of Arcangues. Just ten minutes from Biarritz, the Golf d'Arcangues offers a nice balance of woodland holes and holes through open country with beautiful views of the Basque countryside and the Pyrenees.

The 6700 yard par 72 course, designed by American architect Ronald Fream, spreads over 198 acres of oak trees and meadows around the village and the Chateau, winds away from the club-house to the South before curving to the North around the cha-teau before reappearing from the East to finish on the 18th just below the Clubhouse terrace. The Golf d'Arcangues clubhouse, a 15th century restored farmhouse perched on a natural summit overlooking the Basque Country, has a large English bar with lounge area, a corner for bridge players and a big open fireplace for the winter. The restaurant is open for lunch and in summer meals and drinks are served on the spacious terrace facing South over the first and tenth tees and the 18th green.

The course offers a splendid array of golf holes which, by any measure, allow you to use the full array of clubs in your bag. Although not exceptionally long, some of the holes are very nar-row and thoughtful club selection is the order of the day. You will find yourself playing to greens both above and below you, so be prepared for some careful judgement.

The 18th hole is a fine driving hole, slightly uphill, but at the landing point, the fairway narrows into an hourglass shape, with woods and other problems sloping sharply down from the playing area. Long hitters may be tempted to have a go up and around the corner to this difficult, elevated green, but it is well bunkered and has two tiers sloping toward you, so you might do well to play your second to leave a simpler wedge shot. From here, you will make your way to the scenic patio, where a proper French lunch will be served to you as you admire the course and the beautiful Pyrenees mountains on the Spanish border just a few miles away.







