



OITAVOS DUNES

NATURAL LINKS GOLF



Over the past two years, there have been a number of changes to the golf course at Oitavos Dunes which has enhanced the playing experience. The other exciting event saw The Oitavos Hotel open in September, 2010 which makes Oitavos the complete Resort destination.



Hole # 4 – To create a separation between the driving range and the 4th fairway a thirty meter sand dune was constructed and planted with native vegetation. The dune was shaped in a manner that has resulted in the hole taking on a more pronounced dog leg from left to right. The run off area to the left of the green was also built up to retain errant shots.



Hole # 6 – When playing with GOLF Magazine panel member Norman Klaparda, Oitavos owner Miguel Champalimaud had a difficult time describing the perfect line off the tee. So, to mitigate this situation, Miguel set out with his chain saw and crew to cut down a number of trees on the left side. Miguel left one lone tree (the tallest tree in view) to act as the line which has become a feature of the 6th hole, “The Klaparda Tree.”



Hole # 7 – During the Portuguese Open and on days when the wind lies down, the 7th hole plays more like a long par 4 than a testing par 5. A new tee has been constructed making the hole 30 yards longer and the perfect drive now requires a shot shaped from left to right. The new back tee also brings in to play a new sand dune at the corner of the dog leg on the second shot. Previously the 7th was a strong birdie opportunity, now par is a very good score.



Hole # 9 - Rarely can one experience an more dramatic view on a golf course than from the 9th tee at Oitavos Dunes. The only obstruction was the view of villa's to the right of the green. Trees were planted to block the site of the structures.

A new tee has also been constructed behind and to the right of the existing tee. The new tee orientates toward the Cabo de Rocca. The hole plays 190 yards from the new tee and more into the prevailing wind.



Hole # 10 – The boundary fence to the right was a feature of the 10th hole, however aesthetically it was not pleasing to the eye. A large vegetated sand dune was added to the right side that has taken away the view of the fence and created a dog leg from left to right. The new dune helps players to drive the ball down the left side of the fairway taking the out of bounds right out of play.



Hole # 14 – This hole has put Oitavos Dunes on the world golf map as it is most frequently featured in magazines and on television. The hole plays to the back drop of the Cabo de Roca, the most westerly point of Continental Europe. Recently the dunes to the left and right were reshaped and the front of the barranca lowered to create a perfect frame from all sides, another pleasing result is that the green surface can now be seen clearly from the tee.