



# OITAVOS DUNES

LINKS LETTER / FALL / WINTER 2009

## SUDDEN-DEATH SUSPENSE HIGHLIGHTS 2008 PORTUGUESE OPEN

EUROPE'S BEST POST GREAT SCORES INCLUDING A COURSE RECORD



Grégory Bourdy, 2008 Champion

The 25-year old Frenchman Gregory Bourdy, with seemingly nerves of steel, won the 2008 Portuguese Open after beating Britons David Howell and Alastair Forsyth in a three-way sudden-death playoff.

"I was quite nervous at the start of the day. It was difficult because it was the first time I have been in this position and I am so happy to win," said Bourdy.

Bourdy claimed victory at the third extra hole after leading for the first three rounds. But, a closing one-under 70 allowed Howell and Forsyth to match his 18-under 266 total before winning his second European Tour title.

Ryder Cup star Howell was heading for an amazing victory by producing a closing 64, his lowest round in more than two

years. But it was not quite enough. Forsyth, seeking a second win in three weeks fell out of the playoff after driving into a bush on the second hole of sudden death.

Past winners of the Portuguese Open at Oitavos Dunes are England's Paul Broadhurst who won in 2005 and returned 12 months later to make a successful defense and capture the 2006 title and, then amateur Pablo Martin of Spain who turned pro last June, was crowned champion in 2007.

### OPENING ROUND

The week began as the 2008 Portuguese Open returned for a third year to Oitavos Dunes, the Home of the Portuguese Open through 2009. Opening Round records were made and broken to the thrill of the crowds throughout the course at Oitavos Dunes. Defending champion Pablo Martin

of Spain and France's Gregory Bourdy shot 8-under 63s to share the first-round lead and break the course record. Earlier in the day, the course record of 64 was matched by Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano of Spain.

### SECOND ROUND

Shooting a six-under-par 65, Bourdy, the joint first-round leader with Martin, moved into a two-stroke lead after the second round. He carded six birdies to get to 14 under, two clear of Spaniard Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano.

### THIRD ROUND

Bourdy extended his lead in the 3rd round to four strokes after a 3-under 68. The big mover of the day was Thomas Levet who catapulted from 14 to 3rd after shooting a 64. Scotsman Alistair Forsyth kept hope alive with a 5-under 66, moving into second place.



Alastair Forsyth ties for second



David Howell

## PORTUGUESE OPEN 2008 SCORE BOARD

1	BOURDY, Grégory	266
T2	FORSYTH, Alastair	266
T2	HOWELL, David	266
4	TUNNICLIFF, Miles	267
5	FDEZ-CASTAÑO, Gonzalo	268
6	McGRANE, Damien	269
T7	McGINLEY, Paul	271
T7	SCHWARTZEL, Charl	271
T9	BAKER, Peter	271
T9	EDFORS, Johan	272
T9	KHAN, Simon	272
T9	LARA, José Manuel	272
T9	McLARDY, Andrew	272
T9	WEBSTER, Steve	272

## TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

LOCATION	Estoril, Portugal
ESTABLISHED	1953
COURSE	Oitavos Dunes
PAR	71
TOUR	PGA European
FORMAT	Stroke Play
PURSE	Euros 1 250 000
DATE	April 3-6, 2008



## OITAVOS DUNES COURSE INSPECTION PRIOR TO PORTUGUESE OPEN

Excerpt report submitted by Richard Stillwell, Chief Greenkeeping Consultant for PGA European Tour.

"It was most gratifying to see how well the course had wintered. All aspects of

the course were in good condition and as well manicured, as any Links course should be. It should be born in mind that a Links course is supposed to be windswept and natural, not manicured like Augusta."

## FREDERICO CHAMPALIMAUD, DIRECTOR OF GOLF MANAGES THE COURSE UPGRADES



Frederico Champalimaud - Director of Golf

Over the past winter with the help of Arthur Hills, the course has seen a number of great changes. Using a recommendation by GOLF Magazine's Top 100 Panelist Norman Klaparda, new trees on the right of the 5th hole have helped to frame both the 5th and 6th. With the sand dunes stabilized, a program to clean the natural vegetation was led by owner and head greenkeeper Miguel Champalimaud. The new tee on 9, now with a more ample view of the ocean, offers a wider variety of shots onto the green. Changes are still underway with the continuous goal of improving the playability of the course. Plans for the future are considering the addition of sand dunes to the right of 10 to create a true dogleg.

## AUDUBON RE-CERTIFICATION

By adhering to high maintenance standards, Oitavos Dunes was awarded re-certification of the Gold Signature status certificate by Audubon International.

"Oitavos Dunes continues to be a stellar example of a three-diamond Gold Signature Sanctuary, and I am very pleased to recommend that the facility be re-certified. The entire golf facility is exemplary of the principles we promote in our program and your efforts continue to show your dedication to exhibiting sound environmental stewardship in all aspects of your operation. You are to be commended," wrote Dr. Charles H. Peacock, Senior Agrono-

mist, Audubon International Services to Miguel Diniz Goncalves the Oitavos Dunes superintendent.

Audubon International awards certification to recognize golf courses that protect the environment, conserve natural resources, and provide wildlife habitats. It is a high honor, given to Oitavos Dunes shortly after opening in 2001. Achieving certification demonstrates a course's leadership, commitment, and high standards of environmental management.

Oitavos Dunes became the first course in Europe and second in the world to receive the award.

## THE DRAMATIC 18TH HOLE



Englishman Barry Lane

In the final round of the 2005 Portuguese Open, Barry Lane threw it all away. Needing a par on the last hole to win, he took a 9! Paul Broadhurst took home the trophy.

### THE STORY GOES.....

Lane, on 14 under, was leading by one, but it was a lead that would not last long after a poor tee shot into the bushes on the left. The 44 year old managed to get the ball out of that trouble, but it shot across the fairway into more bushes, and from there he suffered the cruelest of luck as his third shot hit a root of one the bushes and changed direction, flying out of bounds.

Forced to take a drop, Lane's new ball landed in an unplayable lie, which meant a further penalty stroke as he dropped again, and was now playing his sixth shot of the hole. He moved that to the front of the green, chipped on and two putted for a nine, and with it saw his challenge disappear.

## MAINLAND EUROPE'S FIRST LINKS COURSE RENAMED OITAVOS DUNES

In January 2008, Oitavos Golfe was officially renamed Oitavos Dunes to reflect its recognized status as the first great links golf course to exist in continental Europe.

Oitavos Dunes opened in 2001 as Oitavos Golfe, which was typical in a naming style for a Portuguese course. In ensuing years, a series of events challenged the appropriateness of the name.

Major PGA European Tour tournaments were hosted at Oitavos Golfe and the comments from the professional players as well as from many visiting golf dignitaries brought attention to the links aspect of the course outside of Portugal and around the world.

"I love links golf, and the scenery here is second to none," said two-time Portuguese Open winner Paul Broadhurst.

And from Paul McGinley, three-time member of winning Ryder Cup teams, "Like all great golf courses by the sea, it changes depending on the wind. Links are my favorite golf courses. That's where the game originated and it's always great to play at Oitavos Dunes."

The announcement came from Miguel Champalimaud, the third generation owner, to kick off the beginning of a 100-year celebration of family passion for the land on which the course is located, now known as Quinta da Marinha *Original*. The new slogan appropriately for Oitavos Dunes is "Natural Links Golf."

"Oitavos Dunes, which has become known as a Natural Links Golf experience, typifies every aspect of links golf – windy conditions, fast running fairways, sand dunes sculptured by nature over 100 years and views of the Atlantic Ocean," said Champalimaud. "The name change better describes the natural sand dunes upon which it is built and the playing experience."

### A LESSON IN LINKS GOLF

Records show the first game of golf was played in 1456 at Bruntsfield Links, Edinburgh, Scotland. Links golf, sometimes referred to as seaside links, is the oldest style of golf course and first developed in Scotland.

Many links – though not all – are located in coastal areas, on sandy soil, often amid dunes, with few water hazards.

The two main challenges of links golf are the nature of the course, which tends to have uneven fairways, thick rough and small deep bunkers and, the wind due to coastal locations.

Links courses remain most common in the UK with a few in the United States.

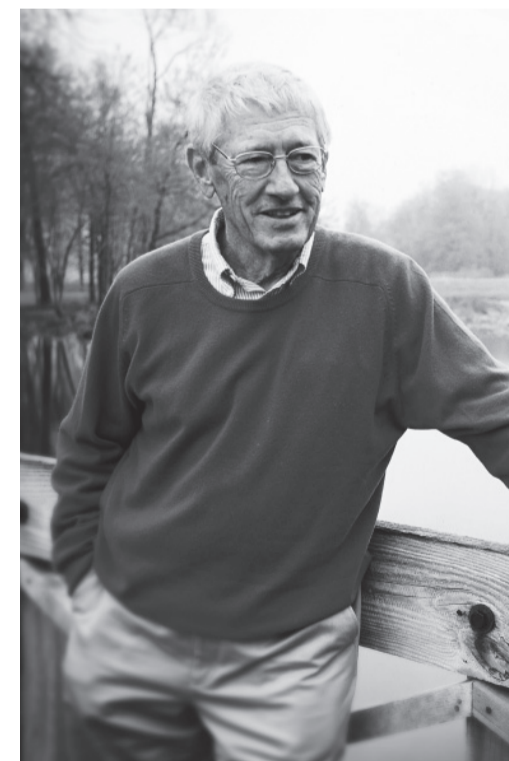
Now mainland Europe has its first Links Course, Oitavos Dunes at Quinta da Marinha *Original* to be compared to some of the great notables such as St. Andrews, Carnoustie, Royal Troon and Ballyunion.

## ARTHUR HILLS CONTINUES TO IMPROVE OITAVOS DUNES

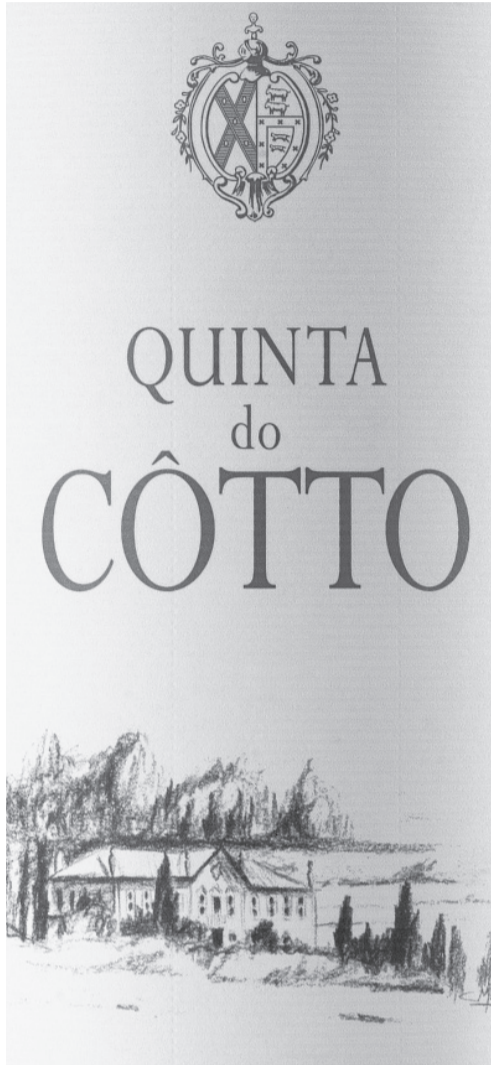
We recently attended the Portuguese Open at Oitavos Dunes, where the course and players both benefited from ideal weather conditions. The course continues to mature and during the event we spoke with representatives from the European Tour about the turf and the greens and the comments were unanimously positive.

Oitavos Dunes is most certainly a unique environment for golf. It is rare to have views of the Atlantic Ocean from every hole. The views are more dramatic now that some trees and underbrush have been selectively thinned. The dunes are a dynamic feature of the environment at Oitavos Dunes, as well.

It is rewarding to work with a client, like Miguel Champalimaud, who has such a deep concern for quality. He is committed to improvement and to striving for the very best.



Arthur Hills, Course Architect



## THE FAMILY WINE

The family wine is another passion of Miguel Champalimaud.

A Quinta Wine presently represents a wine produced and bottled in a specific terrain (the Quinta), made and selected with great care by its owner, and a guarantee of quality, personality and authenticity, all of which are indispensable qualities for a good wine to become a great wine.

QUINTA DA MARINHA HAS BEEN A FAMILY PASSION FOR 100 YEARS.

## NEXT GENERATION: THE CHAMPALIMAUD FAMILY



Miguel Champalimaud, third generation owner, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, has brought his children into the business.

His grandfather discovered the property 100 years ago and preserved the natural habitat and sand dunes, which opened the way for Miguel's father to build roads and create a necessary source of water. With the land primed for development, Miguel built sporting facilities, villas, the golf course Oitavos Dunes and has recently broken ground on a 5-Star Hotel.

"With my children, we remain committed to the family vision," said Miguel, Sr. "I am proud of their dedication and abilities that will be important in enhancing the reputation and prestige of Quinta da Marinha *Original* for years to come."

Daughter Pureza and son Miguel are now an integral part of the marketing, branding and promoting of the golf course and all the properties at Quinta da Marinha *Original*. Together, they are strategically creating the fourth generation legacy.



## Q & A WITH OITAVOS DUNES MEMBER

Udo Kruse - President of the Members at Oitavos Dunes

**When you come to Oitavos Dunes to play golf, what is a typical day?**

I go directly to the driving range and hit balls to warm up. I play in less than four hours and end the day with a glass of wine and a snack on the Verbasco Restaurant balcony.

**What is your experience with the Golf Operations staff?**

I have rarely seen a team so well organized and so efficient when it comes to customer satisfaction. They are always very courteous and friendly.

**What is your favorite hole?**

Hard to say as there are so many, but my personal favorite is 11 because of the real beauty. You can see most of the course from the tee. The Ocean views and the scenery are just amazing! It is a short par-4, which you can try and go for the green from the tee.

**Do you play in a regular group?**

Being the Club President, my preference is to play with different people. They always comment about the beauty of the course and it's fantastic condition.

**Do you use any of the other facilities?**

I use the driving range (not as often as I should though!) and have regular lessons with the PRO.

**What other great courses have you played and how do they compare to Oitavos Dunes?**

None compares to Oitavos Dunes when you put together the whole package (service, quality of the course, atmosphere, etc). Oitavos is the only course I know where you can play 365 days a year.

**Any other comments on the design of the course, the conditioning, and the views.**

I like the "links" aspects of the course, especially where the sand dunes are visible together with the sea views. There is a strong environmental feeling. The fact that the course never plays the same is another challenge, because the wind has a big influence. Things are done to continuously improve the quality and condition of the course and service at the clubhouse. The team is committed to only one thing – to keep the course in the best maintenance condition possible and to exceed customer expectations at all times.

## TRAVELING THE ESTORIL COAST



### LISBON

Just 30 minutes from Oitavos Dunes, is Europe's westernmost capital city and one of the oldest. The city on Seven Hills, is a fascinating mix of history that dates back for centuries with modern day architecture, shopping, entertainment of all types and a wealth of cultural activities. Lisbon is vibrant by night starting at sunset and going on till dawn.



### CASCAIS

Where Oitavos Dunes is located, is a charming, picturesque, cosmopolitan coastal town with great shopping along cobble stone streets, a wide range of family to uniquely elegant hotels, wonderful restaurants often featuring fresh local fish and all surrounded by yachts bobbing on the water. Portuguese kings and many exiled kings have lived in Cascais over the years. The ancient fishing village is a popular vacation spot for both Portuguese and foreign tourists.



### GUINCHO BEACH

Just 5 km from Cascais, is ideal for surfing and wind surfing or just relaxing. Lying at the foot of the Sintra hills and facing the Atlantic, it is a spectacular beach with sand dunes blending subtly with pine trees where the sea rushes here and there into majestic caverns.

### THE SINTRA MOUNTAINS

Boast the westerly most point of mainland Europe, Cabo da Roca. Take a short winding and picturesque drive up the mountain from Guincho Beach, stopping at lookout points along the way. Continue upward and visit the Pena National Palace, Castle of the Moors, and on the other side, the town of Sintra and the Royal Palace for a series of rare treats.



### THE WEATHER

On the Estoril Coast is comfortable all year long. The winter months are mild and its coastal location means that sea breezes have a cooling effect in peak summer months for ideal temperatures. All months allow for outdoor activities and are very inviting.



# THE FUTURE: A SPECTACULAR FIVE STAR HOTEL

The original concept of the Champalimaud family to build a "local development" has become a vision to create a world-class facility. The next stage of the plan is a spectacular 5-Star hotel, which has broken ground and is scheduled to open in late 2009.

The 'Y' shaped, flat roofed structure has been designed to incorporate the beautiful scenery. There will be a sense of little separation from the golf course bringing the outside in and the inside out.

Space and light, pastel colors, and clean modern lines are the elements of the

130 rooms and 14 Suites. All rooms are large 65 square meter open spaces with extensive use of glass to enhance the view of the golf course, natural surroundings, and the ocean.

A stand-alone Suite, once a military fort, is located on a hill above the 11th tee with views of the ocean and mountains. Completely modernized with a wrap around deck and full kitchen, this is a unique suite for special guests.

The hotel will have two gourmet restaurants on the entrance level. Other



bars and restaurants will offer lighter meals in a more casual atmosphere. A major attraction in addition to the golf will be the complete Wellness Center. An outside pool of warm salt water will be available for all guests to enjoy.

Luis Silverio, Quinta da Marinha Original CEO, is directing the new development which will be a sought after location and experience, sure to be one of the most exclusive and luxurious hotels in Portugal.



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