



Good Golfing Guide

Chateau des Vigiers



Donald Steel, considered to be one of the very best "natural" golf course architects, created the unique 18-hole, par 72 course in its enthralling setting amidst plum trees, oak woods, lakes and vineyards. Donald, who has contributed to many world-famous courses such as the Jubilee and Eden courses at St. Andrews as well as Chantilly in France, designed the course with the Château as its centrepiece; the 9th and 18th finishing off in front of the Château; and many of the other undulating greens with different perspectives of the Château. When asked by

Gite-Les-Roches - the Dordogne's premier holiday villa offering 5 bedrooms with en-suites throughout, heated saltwater swimming pool, sauna and exceptional facilities, set in a stunning location between Eymet and Bergerac. Excellent restaurants, vineyards, chateaux, golf courses & towns of Issegeac, Villerreal, Castillonnes Monflanquin, Monpazier all close by.

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Golf World to name his favourite hole from his long career, Donald chose N° 18 at Château des Vigiers, with its dogleg over a ridge for the second shot over the lake on to the green, in front of the Château. Subsequently it was described in Golf World under the heading "Vintage Finale".

Château des Vigiers' course is maintained as a holiday course with short rough, promoting quick play and accessibility for higher handicaps. However, the greens are frequently lightning fast and prove a test for any golfer. With strategic pin positions and longer rough, the course can be turned into a challenge for the best golfer. Indeed, one of our Members, Per Ulrik Johansson, who played for the winning European team in both the 1995 and 1997 Ryder Cup, took five years to get down from his initial score of 75 to 66, now the course record. He adds "It is an interesting and enjoyable course with tough greens. There are a few really great holes and a lot of good ones." Mats Lanner spends quite some time at Vigiers and enjoys playing with members and guests and is invited to join us during Easter and the annual "Coupe des Vigiers"

Green Fees

Oct-Apr €45

May-Sept €65

Location : Monestier

20 mins

www.vigiers.com, tel 05 53 61 50 00

Chateau les Merles



Surrounding the Château, on the edge of the beautiful Liorac forest and the Bergerac vineyards, is a forty five acre estate which includes a three thousand meters, nine hole golf course par 35.

This challenging and compact golf course provides excellent training for players of all standards. There are water hazards, bunkers and greens which are renowned as the best in the area. Covered driving range, pitching area with practice bunker and separate putting green are all available at Golf Club Château les Merles.

The new club house has been rebuilt in line with the rest of the facilities.

Scottish PGA professional, Peter Brown, provides members and non members with pleasant and effective lessons for beginners, intermediates and advanced players who wish to improve their technique.

Green Fees:

Nov~Apr, 9 Holes €23, 18 holea €38

May~Sept 9 holes €25, 18 holea €42

Location : Mouleydier

25 mins

www.lesmerles.com, tel 05 53 63 13 42

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Villeneuve sur Lot Golf & Country Club ('Castelnaud')



The 18 hole par 72 championship course blends into its surroundings, using the many natural gradients, elevation changes and contours to add to its challenging nature. The course is a pleasure for golfers of all abilities; however there are plenty of hazards and challenges to keep things interesting including elevated greens, undulating fairways, water hazards and numerous strategically placed bunkers. The fairways are lined with fruit trees, so even wayward drives can be rewarded at certain times of the year, albeit with a plum or an apple, rarely the opportunity to reach the green in regulation. There are beautiful views of the surrounding country side from many places around the course, particularly the 8th and 14th Holes.

*A warm welcome is guaranteed in the clubhouse, a former farmhouse which is full of character and original features. Breakfast, lunch & dinner are served in the clubhouse restaurant 'La Menuiserie' under the scrutiny of Master Chef - **Jan de Blok**. Anything from a light snack to a multi course feast is available depending upon your appetite. Their 3 course 'Putting' menu changes regularly and is generally composed of local delicacies, at less than 14 euros it is also incredibly good value.*

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