



Monte Rei

6,567 mts. | **Par.72** | **Course Rating 75.5**

Arguably the best course in Portugal and one of the best in Europe, designed by Jack Nicklaus. This course offers American resort style service, with a *buggy*, *Titleist* range balls, *Strokesaver*, water and ice, hand towels and a personalised engraved bag tag, all included in the *green fee*. The course winds its way through beautiful valleys, lined with natural Algarvean wild growth and pine trees. Every hole has a choice of 5 *tee* lengths and players are advised to select a length to suit their game, as carries from the *tee* to the fairway can be as much as 230 meters, from the back *tees*. Conditions are immaculate and it is not just the test of avoiding *bunkers*, water and *rough* to reach the *greens*, but then the examination of *putting*, that makes this a truly great course.

Quinta de Cima

6,585 mts. | **Par.72** | **Course Rating 75**

This championship course has already hosted many professional and top class amateur events. Situated on gently undulating, parkland terrain, 'Rocky' Roquemore has used his magic to create a very challenging test of golfing ability. Water hazards play a great part, as well as the well positioned *bunkers*, trees-principally olives, and the *rough*. This resort has one of the best practice areas imaginable, to warm up before tackling this long course, where again, a choice from the 4 *tees* should be made to suit the player's ability. Always kept in great condition and with excellent service support, this is a course highly ranked in the annals of European golf.

Quinta do Vale

6,206 mts. | **Par.72** | **Course Rating 74**

A relatively new addition to the Eastern Algarve golfing offer, this is a classic of Seve Ballesteros design, featuring his favoured six par 3, six par 4 and six par 5 challenge. In a similar way to Henry Cotton and Nick Faldo, there is a lot of the personality and golfing ability of the Architect, in this layout. Every hole challenges the player to make great shots and a minor error in striking or judgement can cost a ball and a lot of penalty shots. However, the six par 5's and six par 3's give the player plenty of opportunities to make sub-par scores or low numbers, but danger constantly lurks in the shape of water hazards, *bunkers* and *rough*. With the land winding down towards and then back away from the Guadiana River, this is not a 'slog' but a *buggy* is recommended for all but the very fit.



Quinta da Ria

6,016 mts. | **Par.72** | **Course Rating 71.5**

The signature course of the Quinta da Ria resort, also home to Quinta de Cima, this is again the work of William Roquemore. One of the most picturesque courses in Europe, the course runs to and from the sea, with resulting spectacular views of the Mediterranean. Like Cima, this is not an arduous walk, but a *buggy* makes the experience more enjoyable, as it gives time to admire the views. This course is sown with Bent *green's* grass wall-to-wall and it often seems a shame to take a divot! Not as long as Cima, it is still a very stern test of golf, with the mixture of water, *bunkers*, *rough* and fast undulating greens, rewarding good play but punishing any loss of concentration or miscue. As with Cima there is a choice of 4 *tees* and the amount of roll on the ball and the wind strength should play a part in deciding which starting point will offer the most enjoyable game.

Benamor

5,497 mts. | **Par.71** | **Course Rating 68.8**

Designed by the late, great Sir Henry Cotton, this course is not long and lost balls are not frequent, but the shape of the fairways and *greens* and the *bunkering* make this a course where *pars* and *birdies* can be made, but so can *bogeys* and worse. Many holes feature strategically placed water hazards and a poor estimate or mis-hit can soon run up a big score. The views of the inland serra to the north and the sea to the south, provide some spectacular sights and the course is home to many types of flora and fauna which add to the enjoyment. The friendly *Clubhouse* enjoys excellent views and provides welcome *food&beverage* after play. Few players leave Benamor without a story of some success, even if tempered by an equal disaster!

Castro Marim Golf

5,774 mts. | **Par.72** | **Course Rating 70.3**

The work of South African Architect, Terry Murray, this attractively situated course features three nine hole loops, which can be played in combinations to make 18 hole rounds. The pine lined valleys make aiming a matter of following the 'lie of the land', but beware any player who ignores this. The natural *rough* is not massively dense but it will certainly not allow a long recovery shot. Water and strategically placed *bunkers* add to the penalties of stray shots and the *greens* are designed so that their size suits the length of approach shot to be played. The land is undulating and so a *buggy* is a good idea for most players. The magnificent *Clubhouse* has a 'feel' of Wentworth with its castellated frontage, where a very good *food&beverage* service provides delights after play.