

Les Grandes Boulevards.



This guide is intended to assist the tournament player by revealing some of the strategies and nuances of this little known course.

The advice herein is helpful to all players but specifically those playing from the back or tournament tees.

No guide such as this can cover all eventualities and there is no substitute for on-course practice before the tournament begins.

Measurements are approximate and in this imperial version are given in yards.

Distances are from tournament tees and to the front edge of the green.

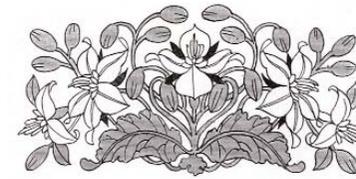
Although apparently illogical in layout, the document is set up so that you can print out, fold and staple together your own copy to accompany you round the course.

If you wish to print out and create a pocket guide please set your printer to A4 landscape at 100% size.

Then it should be straightforward to collate, fold and complete your copy.



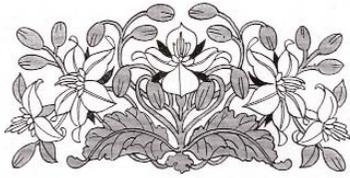
A Mitch Sirk production.



GOLF DU Château Bourrache



GUIDE TO TOURNAMENT PLAY (ENGLISH / IMPERIAL VERSION)



HOLE 1

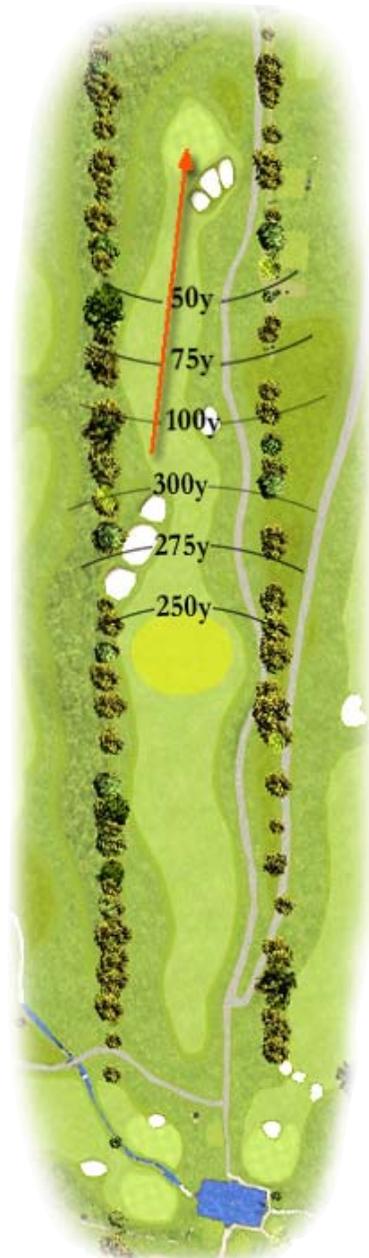
424 YARDS SI:17

A straight par 4 in an avenue of trees.

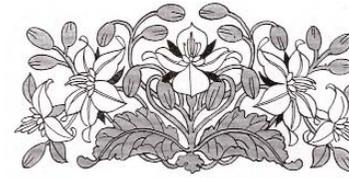
The best line is left side of the fairway, leaving a clearer second to the green. The bank of bunkers force you to make a decision from the tee - carry them with your tee shot, play short of them or accept that you play your second from the right of the fairway.

If you play short of the bunkers it might be tricky to hold your long iron second shot on the two-tier green, and there's trouble back right. Check the pin position and green hardness.

If playing your second shot from the right hand side you have to carry the huge bank of bunkers green front right, whilst holding your shot on the green - tricky!



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



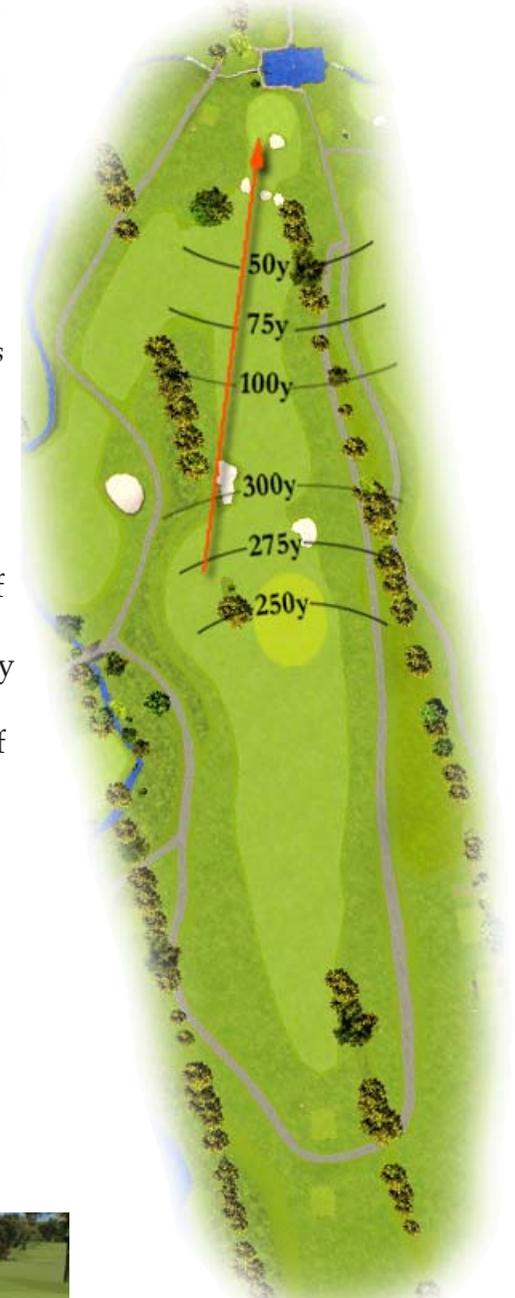
HOLE 18

465 YARDS SI:5

Long par 4 is a thinking player's finishing hole.

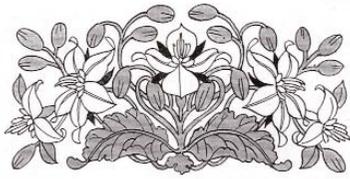
Check the pin position. With water behind and bunkers in front you won't fancy a long iron to this green. However you might decide to hit left of the fairway tree for a clearer view of the second shot. Many players hit a high fade in to the green to take some roll off the ball.

The pretty views around the green are in stark contrast to the ugly scores this tough finishing hole can induce.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in





HOLE 17

171 YARDS SI:7

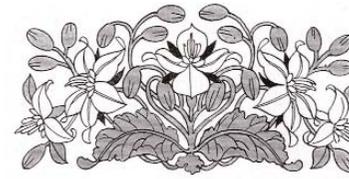
Par 3 with a raised walled green.

Depending on the pin position you might not be able to see the bottom of the flag pole. This green slopes in many directions so you're unlikely to get a straightforward putt. Catch a downslope and your overhit tee shot could end up in the stream.

The ideal shape is a draw but you don't want the extra roll that this will give you!



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



HOLE 2

396 YARDS SI:10

Deceptive par 4 where many find water.

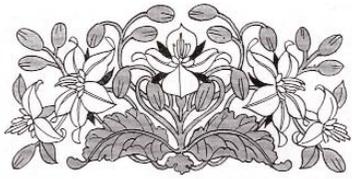
From the tee elect to play safe but shorter right, or go for broke via the left hand fairway.

If you successfully negotiate the left hand route you have a shorter second allowing you to stop the ball more quickly. You'll also have less trouble avoiding the bunkers that bedevil a shot from the right.

The small green sits tight between trees and stream and you may well be playing from a downhill lie, to a target a few feet below you.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



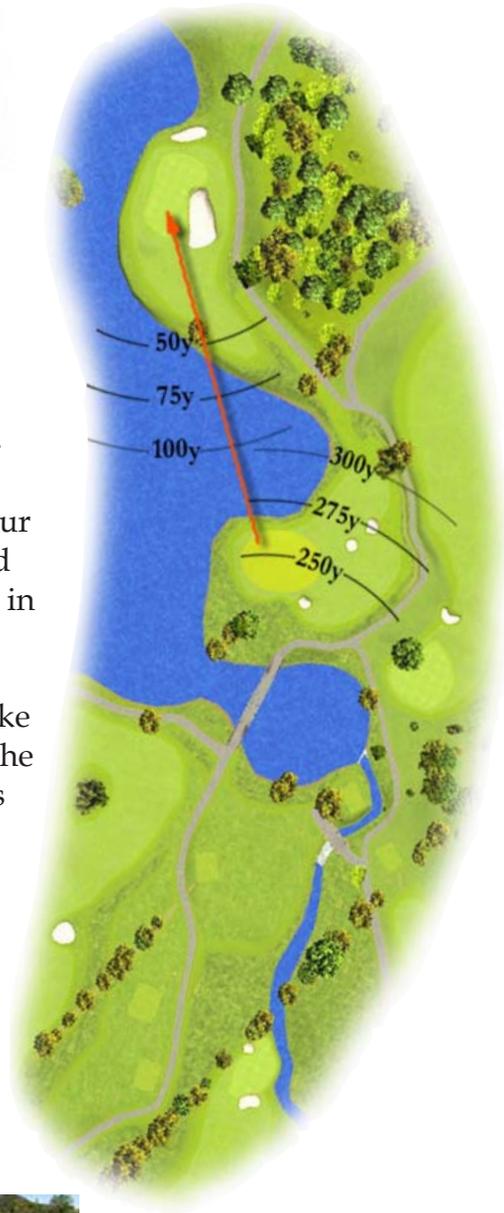
HOLE 3

443 YARDS SI:2

Nerve jangling par 4 over the water twice!

Consider where you want to play your second shot from - length might not be an asset here. Think about placing your ball well clear of bunkers and the lake but with a good line in to the hole.

For your second the deep bunker front right and the lake all around make this one of the most difficult approach shots on the course. Think twice before attacking the pin.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



HOLE 16

437 YARDS SI:3

Long par 4 with a very tough tee shot.

If you need birdie you'll want to carry the stream but it's a tough shot because you really need to draw the ball round the tall trees to land in the left of the fairway whilst avoiding the bunker.

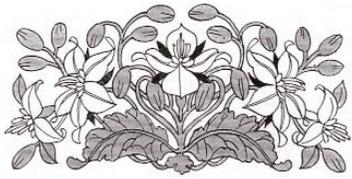
The trees in the target line are just at the height where they might well catch the ball if you attempt to drive over them, so don't unless you feel really lucky.

From the left fairway you've a clearer line in to the green, otherwise you'll need to fade your second with a long iron - not easy, especially when the green is surrounded by trees and water.

16 is a hole that can wreck a round, if you don't need birdie then play for par.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



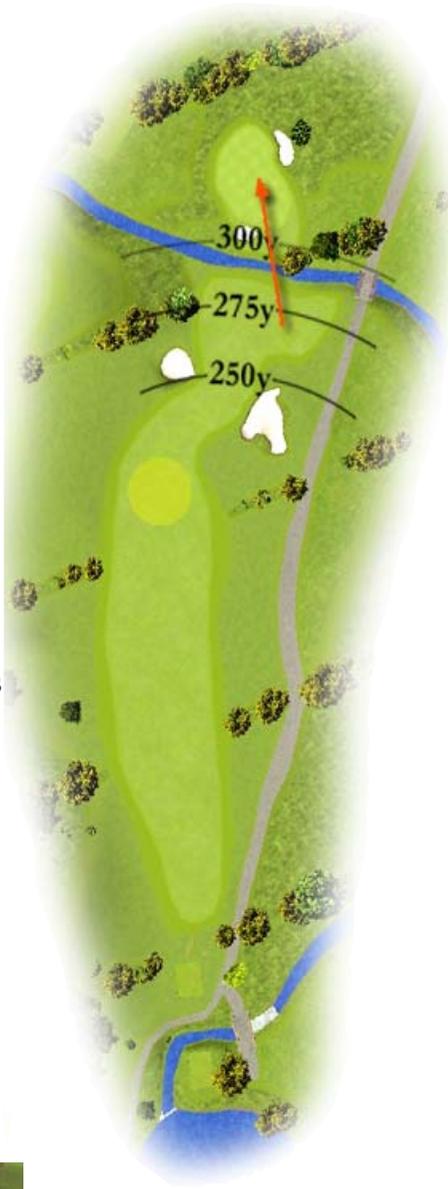
HOLE 15

323 YARDS SI:16

Short par 4 where the target area is invisible.

A big blast from the tee could land you in the stream, so be careful. From the back tees the best strategy is to land in the narrow neck of the fairway with enough short stuff ahead so you don't roll into the water.

Your second is to a plateau green above you and if the pin is tight behind the bunker it's a very tricky shot. If the pin is here you might choose to fade your drive to the right edge of the fairway for a better angle in.



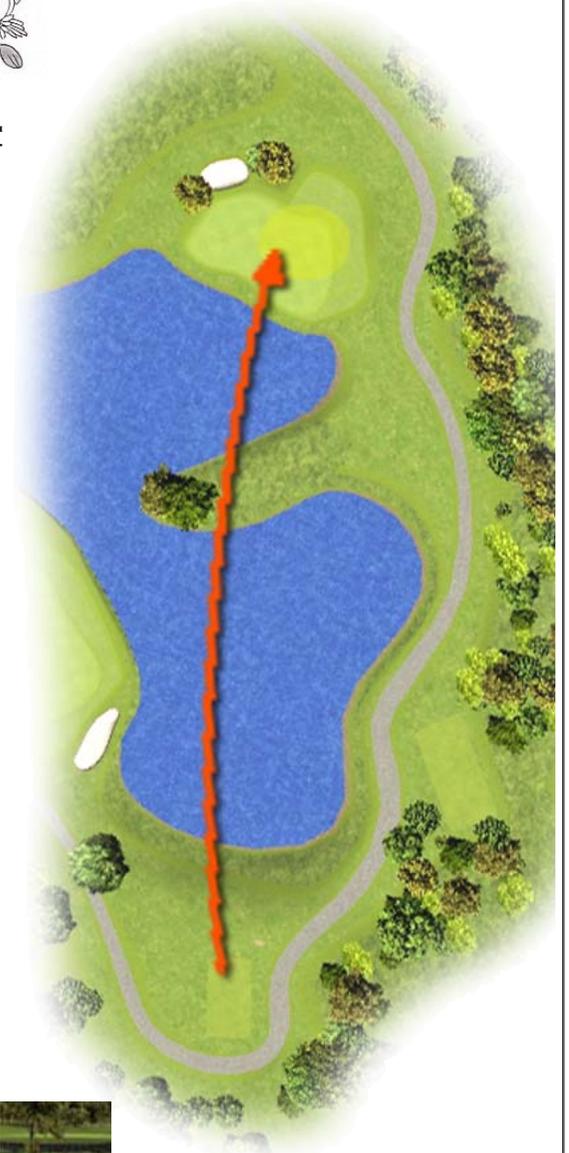
Safe area
→ Ideal line in



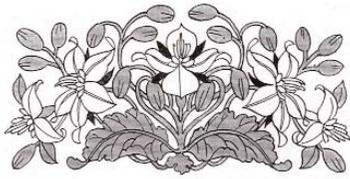
HOLE 4

205 YARDS SI:8

Par 3 over the lake to a laterally oriented green.
If the pin is to the left your choice is simply whether to attack the pin or seek safety on the right side centre green. There's trouble on 3 sides but the green slopes towards you which helps to hold your shot. Consider a high fade if going for the hole, but mind the huge trees to the left!



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



HOLE 5

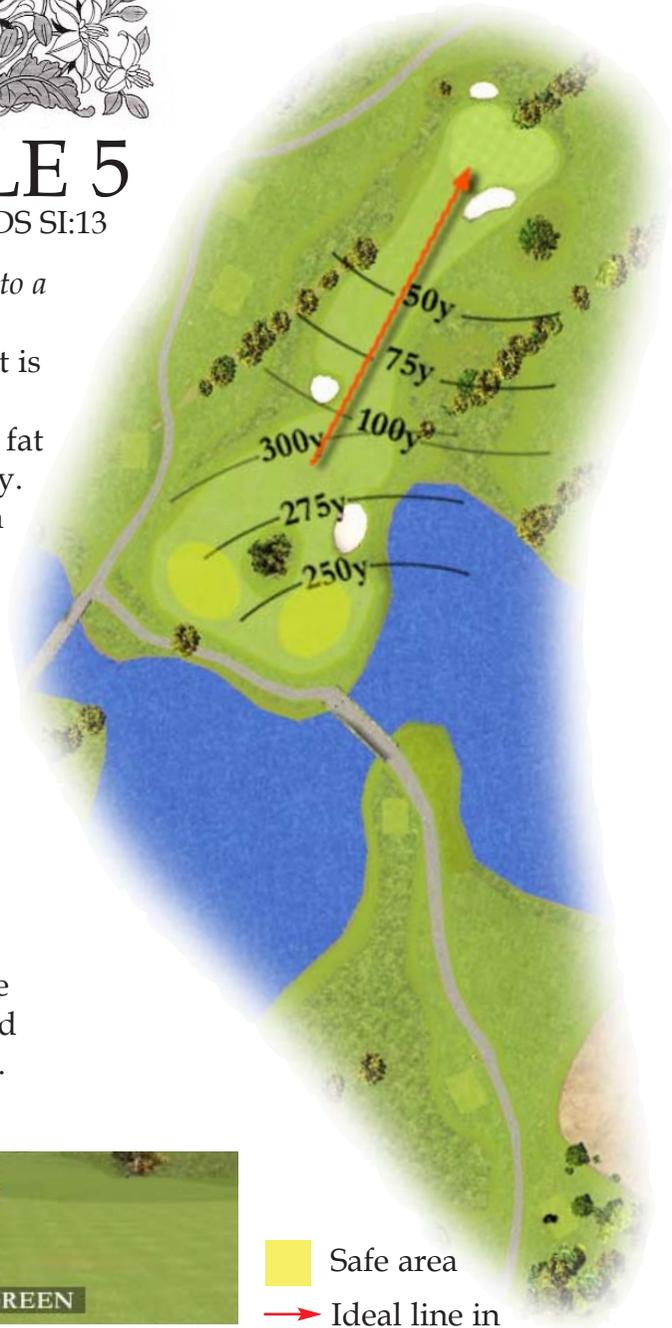
451 YARDS SI:13

Par 4 over the lake to a narrow target.

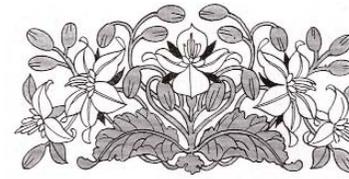
The safest tee shot is to the left of the central tree to the fat part of the fairway.

However you run the risk of an obstructed second if you get your yardages wrong.

Play to the right, perhaps with a little fade and if successful this becomes a birdie opportunity although the large green is uphill and somewhat lumpy.



Safe area
Ideal line in



HOLE 14

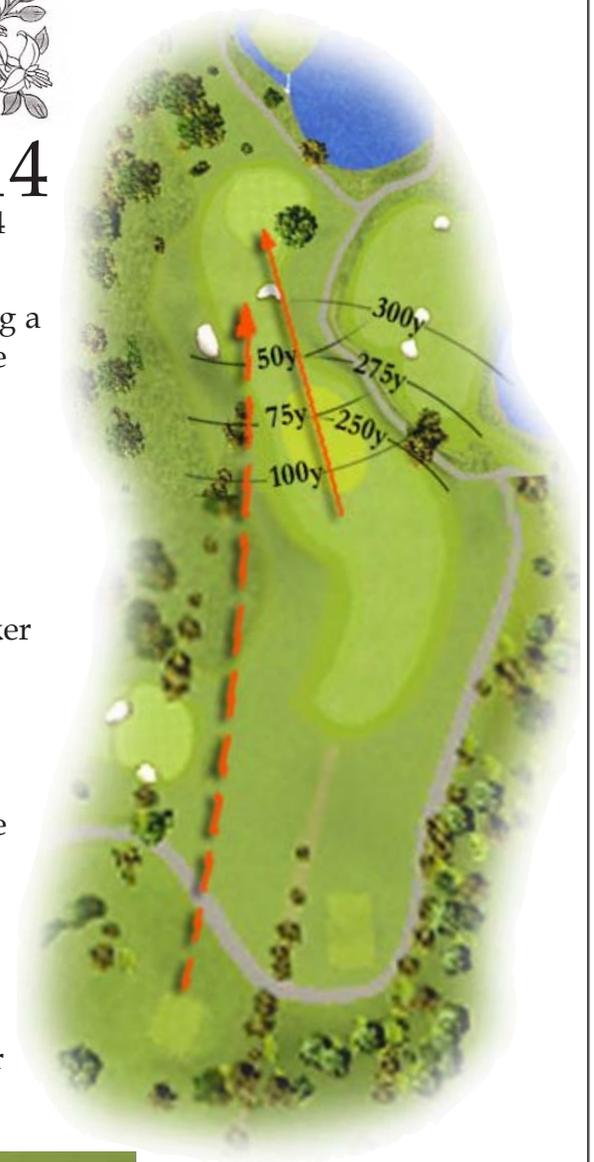
355 YARDS SI:14

Short par 4 is deceptive.

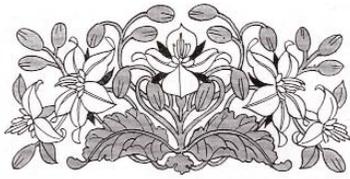
When the wind is helping a big tee shot can reach the pin. In fact it's perfectly possible to hit it through the green as the slope is away from you.

This high risk strategy is further complicated by a strategically placed bunker that receives many visits from over ambitious competitors. Those with local knowledge use the hillside left to bounce the ball into the fairway.

If you're playing safe be careful not to stray right as there are trees at the right edge of the green that will complicate your approach.



Safe area
Ideal line in



HOLE 13

567 YARDS SI:15

Par 5 where if you need a birdie, you might get it.

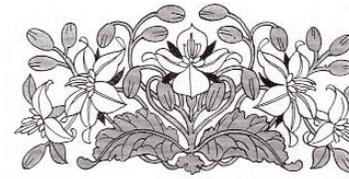
Your tee shot must avoid the central tree and if you've a mind to hit over the forest to the green with your second you'll want to be centre right in order to get the ball up high enough to clear the nearer trees.

The second to the green is perfectly possible but luck will play a part and some shots will catch the uppermost branches of greenside trees.

If you're not chasing shots a second to the fairway elbow (avoiding a second clump of mid fairway trees) should yield a straightforward third to the large green. Having been sensible enough to play safe don't spoil it by trying to cut too much corner!



Safe area
Ideal line in



HOLE 6

437 YARDS SI:6

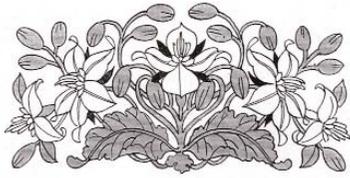
Tight par 4 into the marsh.

Left is the best line to the elongated green but the huge fairway bunker punishes inaccuracy. Your downhill second may well involve a fade around the trees and anything long or sliced will end up in marshy grass or worse.

Some players hit a long tee shot right of the bunker and rely on a flop/fade to the pin. Ultimately it's a balance between a confident drive for length and short iron faded second, or a shorter safer tee shot to the left with a longer iron second that affords more green to work with.



Safe area
Ideal line in



HOLE 7

578 YARDS SI:11

Long 5 shotter where par is a good score.

This is not a hole that yields easy birdies. The stream winds through the fairway and is a major danger from the tee.

Decide whether you will be going for the green with your second. Wind direction and strength will be a factor.

Unless you're on your 'A' game it's probably best to think about a short third wedge shot to the pin. If you've hit a long drive a low punched second might get enough roll to reach the large green. If you do find water don't be tempted to repair the damage with high-risk heroics that will almost certainly deepen your problems.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in



HOLE 12

160 YARDS SI:12

Par 3 with water and sand to negotiate.

In tournament play you're likely to find the pin in some devilish locations.

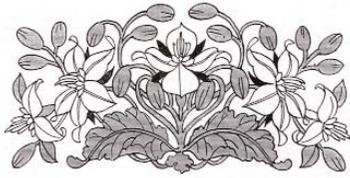
The green has 2 tiers so make sure you hit to the right one unless you want to face a difficult putt.

There is always a safe option to the green centre right for a more likely par.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in





HOLE 11

471 YARDS SI:1

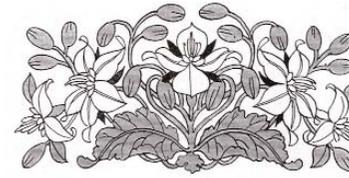
Difficult par 4 demands power and accuracy.

The only way to birdie this hole is to carry the water from the tee, ideal line is towards the bunker on the left fairway edge. It's a long shot so don't try to cut the corner too much. Get it right and you have a long second that must cross the water again in front of the green.

If you decide to play safe from the tee to the right fairway this side of the stream your second will most likely have to be a long fade around the greenside trees. Otherwise lay up this side of the stream and pitch your third to the pin. Bunkers both sides and vineyard behind represent further dangers and this is the toughest hole on the course.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in

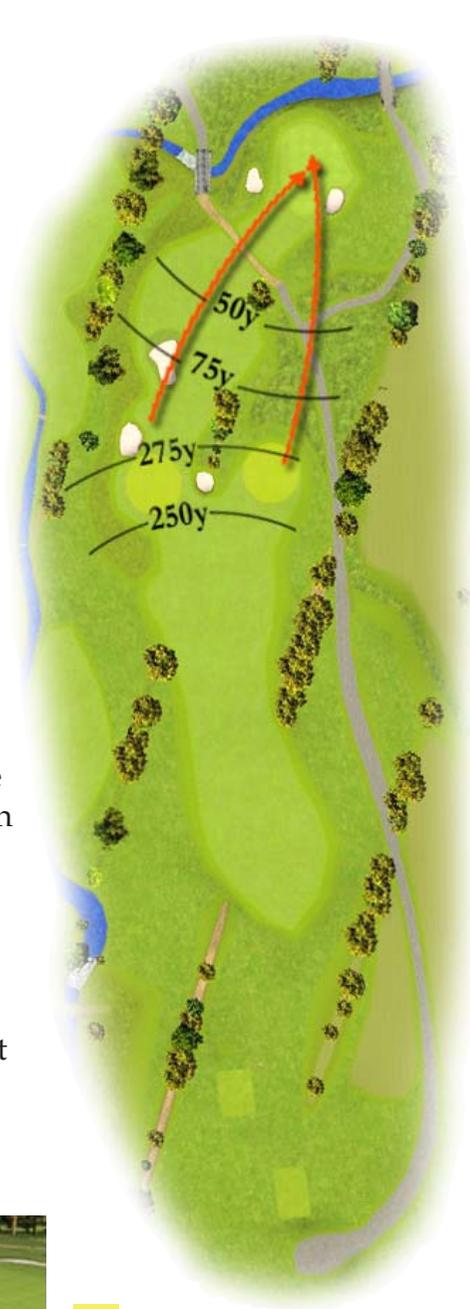


HOLE 8

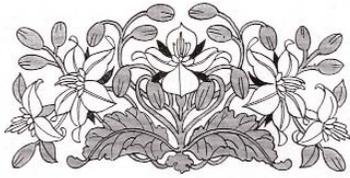
399 YARDS SI:9

Tricky par 4 that has unexpected hazards.

If you're long and reasonably straight the obvious line is just short of the large fairway bunker. You will need length to open up a clear second, unless the pin is on the left hand side of the large green. Alternatively you can play to the finger of fairway right and hit across the hilly rough to the right of the trees. Visibility is an issue and you won't see the bottom of the flag, nor the bunkers, but it might be easier to drop it close to the hole. The green slopes towards the stream so you're unlikely to get a straightforward putt.



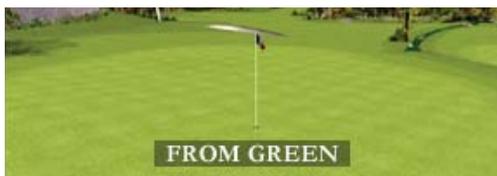
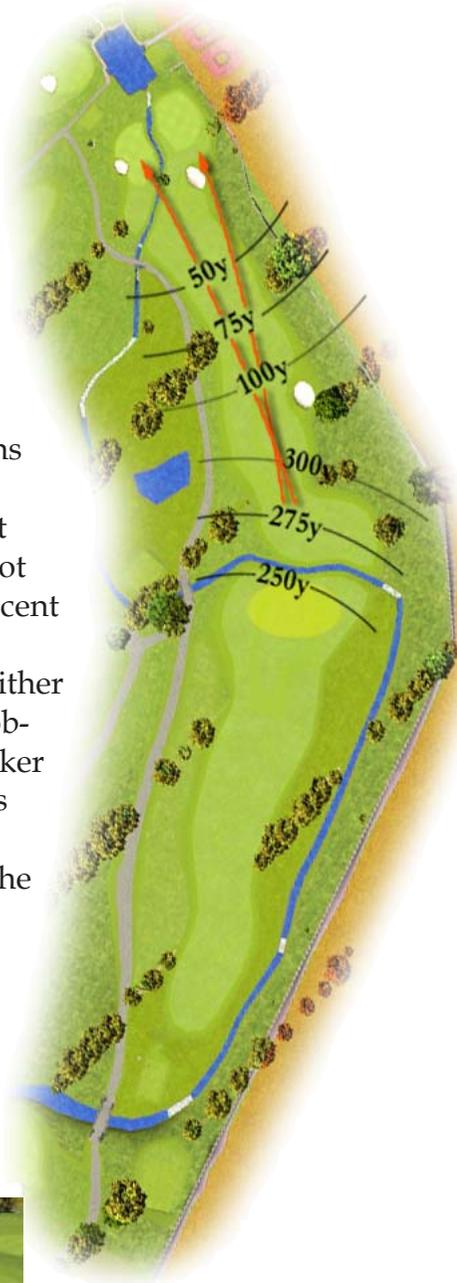
Safe area
→ Ideal line in



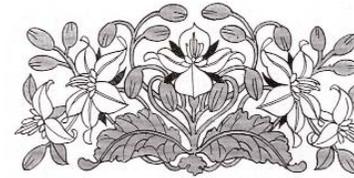
HOLE 9

457 YARDS SI:4

Tight par 4 to one of two greens. Check which green is in play. Tournaments will tend to favour the right hand green which means your ideal line in is from the left centre fairway. Playing to the left green means landing your tee shot right fairway in order to get a decent view for your second. You'll need to carry the stream either way but it shouldn't be a big problem. More likely the trees or bunker will frustrate you. Your second is uphill towards the château. The right hand green is tight to the château wall so you mustn't be long or to the right although left will mean you find water or are chipping from the other green - allowed by the committee but frowned on by the greenkeeper in all but tournament play!



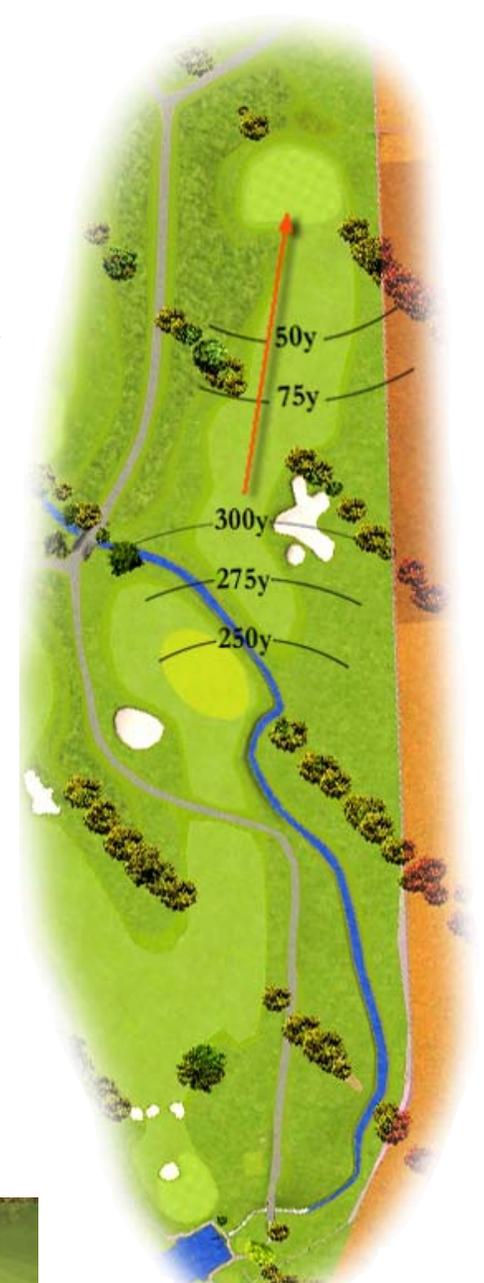
Safe area
→ Ideal line in



HOLE 10

401 YARDS SI:18

Par 4 is a birdie opportunity if you get a decent drive away. Carry the stream and hit the centre fairway for a straightforward second to a large green. If the pin is tucked in a corner be mindful of the narrow gap between the trees and aim your drive accordingly.



Safe area
→ Ideal line in