**Wildflower Terraces Course Play**

**Course Summary**

Play on Wildflower Terraces is tailored to the recreational golfer. Landing areas are relatively generous throughout, and all but the most difficult Pins are accessible. However the back Tees, Difficult Pins, and vigorous conditions can present a significant challenge even for the highly skilled golfer.

The course plays Par 72, with 1 par 5 on the front and 3 on the back. A couple of the par 5s are reachable and provide eagle opportunities, while the longer par 5s are long and may test par. The Par 3s are longish, 2 having dramatic elevation changes. The Par 4s attempt to provide a variety of club selections and shot making decisions.

In keeping with its fictional Central Idaho location, the elevations on the course are often dramatic and affect club selection and shot decisions on most every hole. The front nine plays along the water, menacing several shots, and sand is minimally strategic throughout. Also in keeping with its fictional Central Idaho location, the course is carved out of wilderness, and straying too far off the kept portions of the course is ill advised, as getting back to the fairway may prove a long road.

**Front 9**

**The First** hole greets you with an elevated view of the fairway and green in the distance, with Wildflowers clearly in abundance. Elevation change comes into play right away, but the generous fairway should help shake any opening hole jitters. The approach shot to the green provides the first of many views of the lake around which the course is built. The green is wide and not extremely deep, but tilted toward the fairway making a fairly receptive surface. A large bunker guards the front and right of the green.

The lake is close at hand along the entire right side of **The Second** hole. Again a generous fairway lends to confidence off the Tee. A patch of wildflowers impedes on the left side of the fairway, but at a safe distance from the Tee box. The approach shot to the relatively flat green is slightly uphill, and a bunker guards the right front.

**The Third** is the first par 5, a long uphill dogleg to the right, following the shoreline of the lake. The fairways from here on are less generous than the first two, but finding the short grass should not prove too difficult. Most golfers will find the green unreachable in 2. A safe second leaves a mid-long iron over a lake inlet into an hourglass shaped green, while an aggressive fairway wood across the water that finds the fairway leaves a simple wedge to the softly undulating green.

**The Fourth** is a picturesque par 3 once again engaging the lake. The hole is long and plays downhill toward a green sloped significantly left to right and back to front. Par here is nothing to be ashamed of.

**Hole 5** can get a bit noisy at times, with a swift flowing stream plunging toward the lake just to the right of the back tee, and a duck pond front right of the tees is the local gossip spot for numerous water fowl. Don’t let that distract you, though, this long par 4 will require a well-placed tee shot fairway left, and a mid-iron skirting a stand of trees to a flat but shallow green. A bunker behind the green attracts overly aggressive shots, and the pond and stream penalize the shot left short, but any shot holding the green should create a relatively easy putt on this flat surface.

**The Sixth** is a dogleg right par 4 that may tempt a Driver from the tee, cutting off the dogleg through a gap in the trees. But the smart play may be a fairway wood to a generous landing area straight down the fairway. This shot leaves a mid to short iron into a picturesque meadow lakeside, to a large softly undulating green. Birdie opportunities await the smart shots here.

**Number 7** tee sits lakeside surrounded by wildflowers. The fairway is guarded by the lake all the way to a green protected by a lake inlet right and back. A solid tee shot should leave a short iron into a good sized green with significant elevation changes. So make that second shot snuggle up to the pin, and a birdie could be your reward.

**Hole 8** is another picturesque par 3. A patch of wildflowers sits in a gulley between the tee and green, and a grove of trees looms along the right side of the hole. But concentrate on the pin of the mid-length hole, and a receptive green may reward you with an easy two.

**The final hole** of the front nine confronts the golfer with the lake off to the right and a deceptively narrow landing area fading toward a slight dogleg right. Deceptive, in that very generous at 250 yards, a severe narrowing occurs between that point and 300 yards which is not readily apparent from the tee box. The prudent golfer may decide on a fairway wood off the tee into the heart of the fairway generosity, with a mid-iron into an elevated and significantly sloped green. The green, while receptive with a back to front slope, also has elevation changes that require a 2nd shot near the pin for any hope of a birdie. Should the hole get the best of you though, step just past the back of the green for a splendid view of the lake and a moment of serene contemplation before tackling the back 9.

**Back Nine**

Unlike the opening hole of the front nine, **the 10th** hole presents a significant carry over a profusion of wildflowers to reach a fairly generous landing area. A waste bunker guards the entire right side of the fairway. Once safely on the fairway, the second is a short iron uphill over a patch of scrub to a large 2 terrace green. Make sure you know the pin placement before making your 2nd, as a shot landing on the wrong terrace could ruin a perfectly good front nine score.

**Number 11** is again an elevated tee hitting into a relatively narrow ravine. The slope of ravine can help the slightly errant tee shot still find the fairway, but the extreme elevation of the tee box will carry too errant a shot away into the wilderness. Find the fairway and your second will be an uphill short iron to a large undulating green protected on the right and back by a large bunker.

The signature **twelfth hole** is an extremely elevated par 3 hitting down into a secluded meadow with a pond lurking front, left and back. Adding insult to injury, a large bunker also guards the green front and left. Choose your club wisely as this elevation can mean a 2 or 3 club difference, even more with more severe conditions. The green is large and inviting, but be aware that the back 3rd of the green is terraced a good 2-3 feet above the rest of the green. Most pin placements will reward a good tee shot with a birdie chance.

**Hole 13** is a reachable par 5 under just the right circumstances, and a card burner if one isn’t thoughtful and shot selective. The hole has two fairways separated by a small ravine of shrubs and wildflowers. The risk/reward off the tee is that a perfectly struck tee shot aimed at the left most portion of the first fairway segment will land you within striking distance of the green. The fairway does significantly narrow as it progresses left, however, and missing the fairway left leaves one in a bit of trouble. A safer shot is to the mid-right of the first fairway segment straight toward the wildflower ravine. While a long blast may reach the ravine, an average drive should find short grass. A second from this location should aim toward the far end of the second fairway segment, which terminates some 40 yards short of the green. From there it’s just a short pitch shot over a wildflower surrounded pond to a smallish shallow green. Stay on the fairway and Birdies will be had, get too greedy, and the outcome might be otherwise.

**Number 14** is an uphill par 5 that may be reachable in some conditions. You won’t be able to see the putting surface on your approach shot, so be sure you know where the pin is located as this might dictate the kind of shot you take. The green is good sized, protected by a deep bunker on the left. A pin in the back will allow a low running shot, but a pin in the front, count on carrying all the way on to the green or risk your shot coming back to you down the steep front.

**The fifteenth** finds the golfer standing above a par 3 green, staring down a chute of wildflowers and scrub trees. A large receptive green and the elevated tees allow you to be aggressive on most pin placements. Snag a 2 and get ready for the turn home!

**The sixteenth** starts your turn home innocently enough with a tee shot framed on both sides by a chute of trees, with a carry over some scrub to a generous fairway. Your second shot with short to mid-iron is toward an irregular shaped green guarded on the right by a small bunker. Pins right and front will be difficult to get close.

**Hole 17** is a long narrow par four that can be very difficult to reach in two with a very strong head wind. Key to the hole is staying on the fairway, even if you hit from it twice. Both sides of the fairway are protected by waste bunkers. An up and down par is no disgrace on this hole. The green is wide up front, narrow in the back, and pins front left and back right are not to be trifled with. Bunkers on both sides will collect even slightly off target approaches. Poach a four here, and get ready for the magnificent 18th.

**The Eighteenth** is the granddaddy of long par 5s. Playing at 715 yards (albeit with 50 yards of elevation drop), this hole is not for the faint of heart. This hole features two fairway segments (separated by a ravine of scrub, bushes, and wildflowers) and requires a monster carry from the back tee to reach the second segment. Even though significantly downhill, you may want to check conditions before swinging away with Driver. It is very difficult to reach the green in two except under very favorable conditions, but the broad expanse of the second fairway segment allows for an easy layup, setting up a 3rd to a large round relatively flat green several feet below you, fronted by a runoff pond. Other than an extreme front pin placement you should be able to go after the pins aggressively, and give yourself a decent birdie chance.