

Crossroads: Golf's Newest 9-Hole Course Is Versatile And Reversible

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The first new golf course in South Carolina's Lowcountry in almost two decades is a reversible ... [+] PALMETTO BLUFF

The first new golf course in almost two decades within the sprawling South Carolina Lowcountry community of Palmetto Bluff is 54 acres of fun and flexibility.

South Street Partners has unveiled Crossroads, a reversible nine-hole course from the design team of Tad King and Rob Collins – the mavericks behind captivating creations like Sweetens Cove (Tennessee) and Landmand (Nebraska) that have gained a cult following.

While Landmand in rural Nebraska is bold and brawny, a wild ride across a massive 580-acre piece of elevated farmland, Crossroads fits a lot of golf into a piece of property less than one-tenth the size that runs along an expansion of Palmetto Bluff's extensive inland waterway.

The private layout, which officially opened today and is available exclusively to Palmetto Bluff Golf Club members, is designed for match play and has two separate routings – The Hammer and The Press. Both can be played in reverse, with holes crisscrossing over themselves to provide a variety of shot-making options and encourage players to explore all corners of an intimate landscape that features dune ridges as tall as 40 feet. Collins hopes golfers are inspired to play a kind of choose-your-own-adventure golf, discovering hidden cross-country holes and architectural “easter eggs” that are an intentional part of the design.



Crossroads, a private course that's part of the Palmetto Bluff community, features two routings over ...
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“There are other reversible courses, but what I realized was how this had to be massaged and massaged until the end. You had to think in two different directions,” said Collins. “The fluidity was really fun. In just 50 acres, you’re putting as much variety in it as possible. I’m really proud of our team and overjoyed at the way it turned out.”

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Crossroads has bold contours and multiple teeing areas, providing the flexibility to tailor yardage anywhere from 1,000 to 3,100 yards over each nine-hole exploration. The set routings for The Hammer and The Press each have a par of 36, with a mixture of par 3, par 4 and par 5 holes laid out on sandy soil to play firm and fast, with tightly mowed fairways and greens. Many playing corridors have an elevation change of 10 feet or so, making for a unique setting in the Lowcountry. Collins expects the course will deliver one of the most unique playing experiences in the country.

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Some of the dune ridges at Crossroads reach 40 feet in height, with the intimate course laid out on ...
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“With the ability to play the golf course clockwise and counterclockwise, the golf staff at Palmetto Bluff will have wide latitude in setting the course up from day to day, ensuring that it will never tire upon repeat play,” said Collins.

Collins said he’s looking forward to a “ground-hugging experience” on his next visit, planning to play one circuit with his full bag of clubs and the next using only a 1-iron.

“I’ll be hitting bump-and-run shots from everywhere, using the contours and exposing the architecture for what it is. I’ll probably shoot a better score too,” said Collins, before chuckling and adding a caveat, “Well, as long as I don’t end up in one of the 58 bunkers.”



Similar to 9-hole King-Collins designs at Sweetens Cove and Inness, contours are a key part of the ...
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Crossroads is the first golf-focused project in Palmetto Bluff’s Lowcountry community since the May River Golf Course was built in 2005.

It's also the latest 9-hole, hand-crafted modern marvel from King-Collins, the visionaries who created acclaimed short courses like Sweetens Cove in rural Tennessee and Inness in upstate New York. The former has been called golf's "Field of Dreams," conceived and designed as an inland links course, with artistically rendered features, a decidedly unpretentious vibe, and an inordinate number of ways to play different holes across its 72-acre footprint. Crossroads has an even "greater degree of flexibility baked into it," Collins says.



Crossroads is a member-only course within the Palmetto Bluff community, unlike the May River Course ...
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While the Jack Nicklaus-designed May River course is an amenity of the Palmetto Bluff Golf Club, there is some access to guests of the Forbes' Five Star Montage Palmetto Bluff Resort, which is located within the community. For now, Crossroads is strictly member-only, with no resort guest access.

Palmetto Bluff is the largest remaining entitled waterfront property on the East Coast, with 32 miles of coastline along three rivers – the May, Cooper, and New – and the new golf course, which is part of a larger collection of planned amenities, is accessible by electric boat and kayak for those in the community who can access the expanded inland waterway.

The unconventional course also features a 34,000 square-foot "Himalayas" putting green near the first tee, another fun and engaging offering for those in the 20,000-acre community situated between Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah, Georgia. South Street Partners is one of the biggest owners and operators of private residential club and resort communities in the U.S. and, in addition to Palmetto Bluff, counts well-known golf properties such as Kiawah Island and The Cliffs in its expanding portfolio.