


**GOLF TIPS
WITH PAUL
THE PRO**

Check out a tip with Heritage
Pointe teaching pro Paul Horton

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SUN'S BACKSWING

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FUN IN THE SUN

Beauty of Kelowna courses will leave you 'green' with envy

Being from the oft-snow-bound side of the Rocky Mountains, the first thing you notice upon arriving in the Okanagan is the eye-popping colour of its courses.

They're green.

I mean ... really green.

As in golf green — the way golf gods intended them to be. With no hint of brown to be found and definite clarity between fairways and fringes, dancefloors and danger areas, the sight of it is enough to give you goosebumps.



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And this is only May in Kelowna.

Before long, the orchards

will be filled with fruit, the rough will be filled with fescue and the flora will be in full bloom, adding even more colour to the vibrant golf destination.

"We definitely have a little longer season than in Calgary," said Bruce Vermee, the head pro at Sunset Ranch Golf & Country Club. "We're fortunate to be on this side of the Rockies."

But whenever you go, know that there's no bad apple when it comes to the courses

of Canada's fruit capital.

It's a juicy variety.

The oldies but goodies — including The Bear and The Quail and Gallagher's Canyon — are classic tracks with a Rocky Mountain feel, thanks to their tree-lined fairways and country club atmospheres.

Then there's new exhilarating adventures — tricky and temptuous Tower Ranch, where most of the Okanagan's stunning stretch of land can be seen from its high perch, and

fun-in-the-sun Black Mountain, last year's runner-up in *ScoreGolf's* best new course category in Canada. Both are filled with dramatic elevation changes, and both have put themselves among Kelowna's can't-miss golf thrills.

And sensational mainstays Sunset Ranch and The Harvest put you out in the region's heat, offering pinseekers quite the contrast to their sisters high in the sky or deep in the pines. But their beauty and challenge is just as rewarding.

So too is a stay at the Delta Grand Okanagan on Kelowna's waterfront to ensure it's the perfect trip from sun-up to sundown.

"We've got big city amenities downtown — good culture, good art, great restaurants, great food and lots to do," Vermee said. "So you've got golf, you've got wine, you've got beaches. I don't know about you, but to me, that sounds like a great trip."

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