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# FORE

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## Northern Trust Open's "Mr. Clutch"

SCGA MEMBER **JERRY WEST**  
LEADS CORPORATE  
CHARITY FAST BREAK FOR  
LOS ANGELES YOUTH

*Also Inside:*

Spotlight on desert golf | *The Match's* Ken Venturi and Mark Frost | Wet-weather gear

## THE DETAILS

### VISTA VALLARTA

**Green Fees:** \$135 to \$194 US. Caddies available for \$10 US.

**Amenities:** Lockers, showers, clubhouse, restaurant, bar and pro shop. Practice range.

**Information:** [www.vistavallartagolf.com](http://www.vistavallartagolf.com)

### CASA VELAS HOTEL BOUTIQUE

Pelicanos #311 Fracc. Marina Vallarta, C.P. 48354 Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico

**Information:** [www.hotelcasavelas.com](http://www.hotelcasavelas.com) (866) 230-0140

*These are some other notable area courses:*

**MARINA VALLARTA** is located in the Puerto Vallarta marina area, and the 1989-built course was designed by Joe Finger and features a tropical playground of natural lagoons herons, sea geese, iguanas, alligators, and the scenic shores of Banderas Bay.

**Green Fees:** \$89 to \$139 US.

**Amenities:** Clubhouse, restaurant, bar and pro shop. Practice range.

**Information:** [www.marinavallartagolf.com](http://www.marinavallartagolf.com)

**FLAMINGOS GOLF CLUB** is considered by some to be one of the area's easier courses. Designed by Percy Clifford and built in 1978, the course has beautiful, rolling hill terrain, tropical forest, natural lagoons and mangroves.

**Green Fees:** \$89 to \$139 US.

**Amenities:** Clubhouse, restaurant, bar and pro shop. Practice range.

**Information:** [www.flamingosgolf.com.mx/en](http://www.flamingosgolf.com.mx/en)

**MAYAN PALACE** is located on the spectacular beaches of Nuevo Vallarta, between the mountains of Western Sierra Madre and Banderas Bay. The Nueva Vallarta course is currently being redesigned by Jack Nicklaus Design.

**Amenities:** Clubhouse, restaurant, bar and pro shop. Putting green, practice range and short-game area.

**Information:** [www.albatrossgolfcourses.com](http://www.albatrossgolfcourses.com)

### EL TIGRE AT PARADISE VILLAGE

While it may not sport rattlesnakes in the rough, it does keep a Bengal Tiger on the grounds. It was named one of the top golfing challenges in Mexico.

**Green Fees:** \$113 to \$172 US.

**Amenities:** Clubhouse, restaurant, bar and pro shop. Practice range.

**Information:** [www.paradisevillage.com](http://www.paradisevillage.com)

### PUNTA MITA

When Jack Nicklaus designed the course in 1999 for the Four Seasons Resort at Punta Mita, he used a small island, about 175 yards offshore, for one of the greens. It is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean, and is the only natural island green in the world.

**Green fees:** \$195 US for 18 holes, \$125 US for nine.

**Amenities:** Clubhouse, restaurant, bar and pro shop. Practice range.

**Information:** [www.fourseasons.com/puntamita/golf](http://www.fourseasons.com/puntamita/golf)

# Baja

BY  
DESTON  
NOKES

## OPENS THE DECADE WITH A STUNNING NEW GOLFING COMMUNITY

A new decade not only inspires a look back at important milestones, it also generates excitement over important developments to come. Such has been the anticipation over this winter's opening of Bahía de los Sueños, Tom Doak's creation located on the east coast of Mexico's Baja California Sur peninsula.

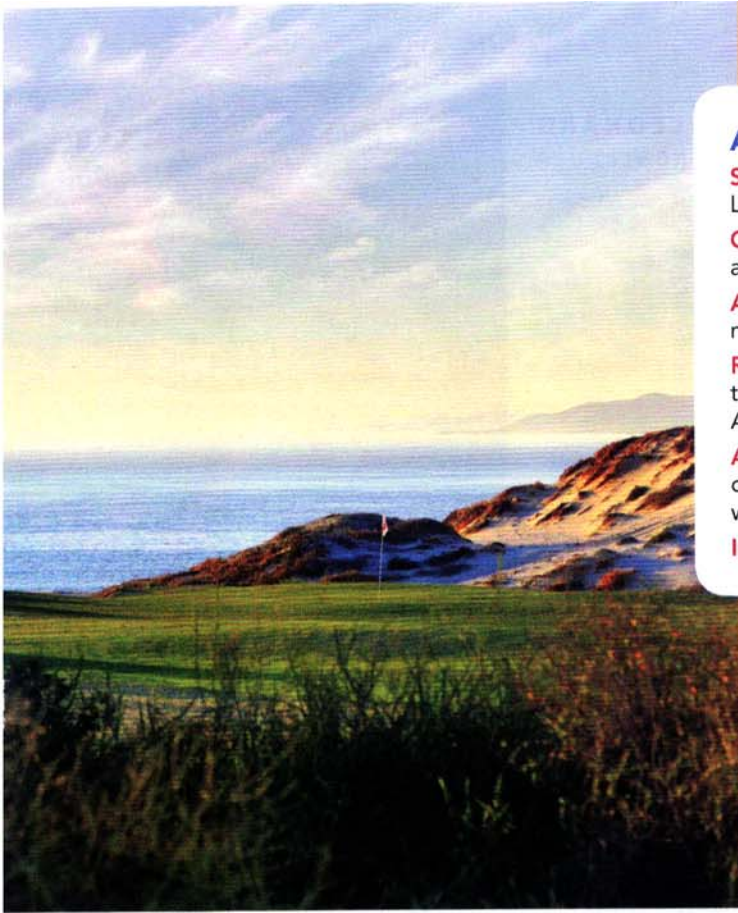
The entire project includes Doak's 18-hole golf course, approximately 600 custom homesites, a bay-view restaurant and an oceanfront hotel, with plans for elite resort amenities, private airport and boutique commercial centers. Bahía de los Sueños — just 35 miles southeast of La Paz and 100 miles northeast of Cabo San Lucas, is characterized by secret coves and magnificent desert sierras, all along a coastline as tranquil and secluded as when Spanish settlers landed there in 1535.

"The first impression of the course at Bahía de los Sueños is its terrific, long and wide beach, which we return to three times over the course of a round," Doak said. "The magnificent variety of terrain and views sets this property apart from others in Los Cabos. The first few holes play among giant Cardón cacti, before a great uphill, par-5 ninth hole, with a stunning turn working up and around a huge hill. To me, the best stretch on the course might be holes 11 to 14, beginning at the high point of the course and playing back down to the beach."

In accordance with Bahía de los Sueños' environmentally responsible approach to construction and development, Doak has crafted a habitat-sensitive layout that responds to the bay-view topography and conserves land and water. The course — which will be irrigated by renewable water — uses salt-tolerant Paspalum grass.

Bahía de los Sueños' developer — Los Angeles-based PCS Development — incorporated Doak's habitat-sensitive course into the layout of the resort, resulting in homesites and planned casita-style residences with stunning golf course views.

"The community has the feel of an old Mediterranean fishing village, but it is Baja to the core," said Charles Freedman, president of PCS Development. "Everything planned here — including the finest services, beautiful hotels, golf and beach clubs, gourmet dining, and state-of-the-art spa — will be offered with the most sophisticated design and elite presentation."



## AT A GLANCE

**Size and Location:** 4,300 oceanfront acres, 35 miles southeast of La Paz, Mexico.

**Golf:** 18-hole Tom Doak course scheduled for completion in January 2010. Clubhouse construction to begin in 2012.

**Amenities:** Planned luxury spa and hotel, private airport, boat moorings and boutique commercial centers.

**Real Estate:** 600 custom homesites, ranging from 1/3-acre to more than three acres and priced from \$300,000 to more than \$6 million. Also planned are 450 casita-style residences.

**Activities:** The bay's expansive hillsides, mountains and coastlines offer ideal settings for big-game fishing, horseback riding, hiking, wakeboarding, kite-surfing, waterskiing, tennis and ATV tours.

**Information:** [www.bahiasuenos.com](http://www.bahiasuenos.com)

PETER COOPER

The Bahía de los Sueños Golf & Beach Club welcomes resort guests and homeowners. The Club is now accepting reservations for memberships. Construction of the clubhouse will begin in 2012. A temporary facility to house the Golf Club is in place for this winter's course opening. Although private, the Bahía de los Sueños Golf Club will offer discretionary opportunities for public play at the course.