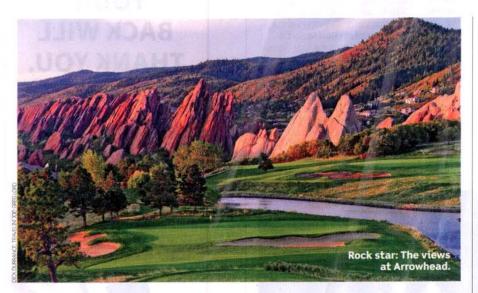


## Ask Travelin' Joe He's been where you're going



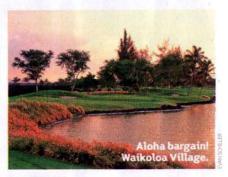
Hi Joe,
I'm planning a trip with my buddies. I live
in San Diego, they live in Toronto and we
want to meet somewhere in between for
three or four rounds and some nightlife.
Something mid-budget would be great.
—Dr. Cassidy Boelk, San Diego, Calif.

Make your way to the Mile High City of Denver (1,082 miles for you, 1,342 miles for your pals). There aren't many golf packages to be found here, but there are a remarkable number of terrific, affordable public tracks. Start with Jim Engh's feisty Fossil Trace Golf Club (\$48-\$79; 303-277-8750, fossiltrace.com), which is delightfully close to the Coors Brewery Tour. Another fine option is Arrowhead Golf Club (\$69-\$119; 303-973-9614, arrowheadcolorado.com). It's a bit pricier, but this Robert Trent Jones Jr. creation is worth it. LoDo (Lower Denver) rocks at night. You can't miss at Wynkoop Brewing Company (303-297-2700, wynkoop.com), the state's oldest brew pub.

Dear Travelin' Joe,

My wife and I are spending two weeks on the Big Island of Hawaii. We'd like to play 6 to 10 times, but pay less than \$100 per round. Am I being ridiculous? Or can you suggest some courses that fit our budget? — Dick Payne, via e-mail

Your target is a tough one, but not impossible, provided you play most of your golf at the Big Island's best bargain, Waikoloa Village Golf Club (\$80; 808-883-9621, waikoloa.org/golf), a breezy Robert Trent Jones Jr. test in the foothills of Mauna Kea. Another option is Big Island Country Club (\$65-\$85; 808-325-5044, bigislandcountryclub.net), a Pete and Perry Dye design overlooking the Kohala Coast that sports a daunting island green hole, the 210-yard 17th.





What's New This Month?

BAHIA DE LOS SUENOS La Paz, Mexico

GREEN FEES: \$125 For tee times call 866-202-0789 or visit bahiadelossuenos.com Two hours northeast of Cabo San Lucas, Bahia de los Suenos is almost as challenging to get to as Doak's Oregon masterpiece, Pacific Dunes. But there are no stand-on-your-head contours here, no heavy fescues or lip-chapping winds—this 7,010-yard, par-72 layout hews seamlessly to the terrain. But the variety mesmerizes: the 410-yard 5th is carved through cacti; the green at the 300-yard, par-4 14th is perched on the beach; and the 430-yard 18th concludes in giant white dunes.

Bahia de los Suenos is part of a burgeoning real estate development 35 miles southeast of La Paz on Baja California Sur's eastern coast. (For now, guests stay at the Gran Sueno, a boutique hotel.) If you want a Tom Doak course all to yourself, it's more than worth the haul to reach this sleepy stunner.