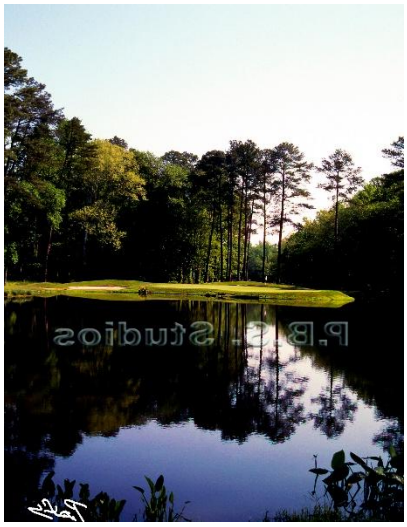
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12th Duke University Golf Course
By
Peter Smolens

What Club Would You Hit?

Today's golf hole is the 12th Duke University Golf Course, Durham, NC. I photographed and played for a feature article in Washington Golf Monthly (GolfStyles, Washington).

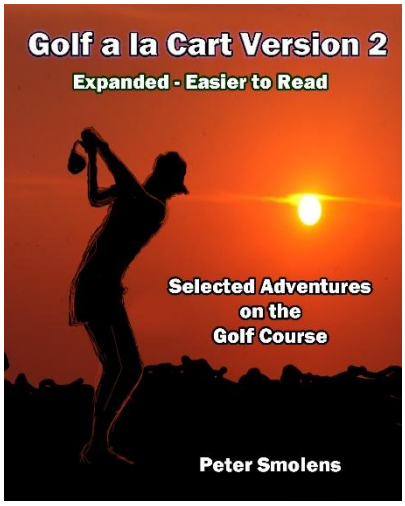


Even though it was April, there was an early morning brisk wind whipping across the pond. I was at the Washington-Duke golf course on Duke University's campus in Durham, NC, looking for an image that would typify this beautiful golf course. The 12th hole at this golf course is a short hole, where the green rises like a small island in the middle of the pond. It's actually a peninsula, a finger of land surrounded by water on three sides. It's considered a medium-length par-3.

Originally designed by the legendary golf course architect, Robert Trent Jones (RTJ) in 1957. In 1962, one of the golfers playing in the NCAA National Golf Championship from Yale was RTJ's eldest son, Reese Jones. Following in his famous father's footsteps, Reese Jones, now a master golf architect, did a redesign in 1993 of the golf course. I played the redesigned version in the late 1990's.

I played the 12th hole at the Duke University Golf Course years ago while visiting my new in-laws. It's only 180 yards from the tips, according to the yardage book. After taking photographs in the early morning, I joined a couple of Duke University golfers. I think one of them was former LPGA Pro Beth Bauer (Grace) (were talking 25+ years ago, so my memory may not be correct as to who my golf companions were).

We played from the Gold Tees and the 12th, a par-3 played about 165 yards. I hit my tee shot on the green and made a two-putt par. In an earlier post, I talked about the digital painting I created of the seventh hole green. The other memory I had is of the 16th hole, where we played from the Devils' tee. At an elevation of 38 feet above the fairway, the view of the golf hole and the surrounding panorama is quite a sight.



This photograph is used as an illustration in my book, "Golf a la Cart Version 2," now available on Amazon or by contacting me. It's also available as a digital print at my Etsy Store. To purchase a print, go to the pbsstudios.com Golf Photography Gallery Section

I hope you like my weekly series of columns about golf holes I have played and photographed. The series includes original photographs or digital paintings based on photographed golf holes.

Give me a like and leave a comment. Use the Contact Form to email me. Let me know what you think about the series.

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