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10th Hole Forest Greens Golf Course
By
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What Club Would You Hit?



Today's golf hole is based on a digital painting I created of the 10th Hole at Forest Greens Golf Course in Triangle, Virginia, near Quantico Marine Base. The peaceful setting is adjacent to Quantico National Cemetery, and Prince William Forest State Park is free of distractions, even though Interstate 95 is behind the 10th green.

Using the natural rolling terrain of the Piedmont, golf architect Clyde Johnson has designed a classic parkland-style layout that stretches to 6831 yards. Most holes are tree-lined, framing the lush Vamont Bermuda grass fairways. Forest Greens provides bent grass tees and greens.

Starting the back nine is the challenging 10th hole. A dogleg par five that is 574 yards from the tips is a classic risk-reward golf hole. The first challenge is driving over a chasm of 200 to more than 250 yards (depending on which tee box). Because the hole turns to the left, the first risk-reward challenge is when golfers try to cut the corner. Hit your drive far enough, you'll have a flat lie for your second shot and a chance to go for the green in two. However, if you try to cut the corner too much or hit too far to the left and don't reach the fairway, your golf ball will bounce down into the woods. The safer route is to play straight out or to the right, turning the hole into a three-shot par five. The hole then goes slightly downhill to a green complex (see my digital painting illustration) surrounded by bunkers.

Over the years, I have played the Forest Green golf course many times. I now take the safe route, hitting my drive straight out across the chasm. While this makes the 10th hole a three-shot par five, it's the safer play. Hitting a solid fairway wood for my second shot leaves around 100 yards (or less) to the green. My approach was straight and true, landing in the middle of the green, leaving me with a medium-length putt for a birdie, which I left a couple of inches short – I know you're never supposed to leave a birdie putt short. Still, I'm not going to complain about a par.

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 of pbsstudios.com

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 in the series based on photographed golf holes.

Give me a like and leave a comment. Let me know what you think about the series.

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