



NEW ZEALAND

1 TARA ITI GC *Mangawhai* New Zealand was already a golf trip you wanted to make; Tara Iti makes it one you have to make. Tom Doak's beautiful, true links on the secluded east coast of the North Island is big and wide (allowing for both the wind and endless variation), covered in sand and fescue, and pure enjoyment.

2 CAPE KIDNAPPERS *Hawke's Bay* Another Doak design on the North Island's east coast, it also plays like a links but high atop cliffs that rise a breathtaking 450 feet above the Pacific. Holes run in every direction, not just along the water's edge, which enhances the wind's effects while placing the focus on shotmaking rather than scenery.

3 JACK'S POINT *Queenstown* A short drive from vibrant Queenstown on the South Island, the public Jack's Point is a thrill ride of movement both up and down (often dramatically) and side to side. The scenery is to die for, playing between the perfectly named Remarkables mountain range and Lake Wakatipu. Sometimes over the top, always unforgettable.

4 KAURI CLIFFS *Matauri Bay* The course that ignited interest in New Zealand when it opened in 2000,

what Kauri lacks in strategy it more than makes up for by being one of the most beautiful spots on earth. Located high above the water at the top of the North Island, it swoops and sways, and uses its massive size and wide-angle views to intimidate and awe.

5 KINLOCH CLUB *Taupo* In the middle of the North Island—near where *Lord of the Rings* was shot—is the country's only Nicklaus design, framed by long grasses and running through a valley on the front and high ground on the back. The mix of long and short holes makes great use of the rolling terrain, but forced carries and sloping lies make it better suited to good players.

6 PARAPARAUMU BEACH GC *Paraparaumu Beach* Long regarded as the best links in the Southern Hemisphere, this 1949 design by MacKenzie disciple Alex Russell just north of Wellington is a classic of the type, all about playing the winds off the nearby ocean and navigating the bumpy, humpy landscape. Less dramatic than the country's newer models, but pure golf.

7 TITIRANGI GC *Auckland* A different kind of classic, Alister MacKenzie's only NZ creation, at a private suburban club, is short, tree-

lined, and challenging in that "Golden Age" way, with subtle movement, perfectly positioned hazards, and small, tough greens.

8 THE HILLS *Arrowtown* When local jeweler Michael Hill built his dream course on the South Island, he went all out, dotting the property with sculptures and letting talented local architect John Darby use water, elevation, lush foliage, and whatever else he could to make the golfer both look and think his way around. The modern clubhouse is a looker, too.

9 WAIRAKEI GC *Taupo* Formerly Wairakei Golf & Sanctuary, the golf is a pleasant, flattish, parkland course with the trouble—trees, sand, and some water—in view. Also on display is the sanctuary, a unique ecological restoration of endangered bird and animal life created by fencing off the property to keep out predators.

10 ROYAL WELLINGTON GC *Wellington* Founded in 1895, this is the country's only club with Royal status. The parkland course, which plays along an ancient riverbed, was recently renovated but retains a natural look as well as abundant trees, water, and undulating greens.