





# BUFFALO COUNTRY CLUB

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

DONALD J. ROSS GOLF ARCHITECT

VISITORS TO THE COUNTRY CLUB OF BUFFALO ARE GREETED BY A STATELY AND HISTORIC SIGHT – TWO MASSIVE STONE PILLARS, WHICH STAND ON EITHER SIDE OF THE DRIVEWAY AT YOUNGS ROAD. JUST INSIDE THE ENTRANCE LIES THE BEAUTY OF THE FLOWER GARDENS, WITH THE FIRST HOLE OF THE DONALD ROSS-DESIGNED GOLF COURSE BEYOND. PROGRESSING DOWN THE GRACEFULLY CURVING DRIVEWAY, THE CLUBHOUSE COMES INTO VIEW. AFTER PASSING THE TENNIS COURTS AND SWIMMING POOL, A SECOND SET OF STONE PILLARS USHERS THE VISITOR THROUGH THE MAGNIFICENT FRONT ENTRANCE TO THE DUANE LYMAN-DESIGNED STRUCTURE. AND THAT’S ONLY THE BEGINNING.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Country Club of Buffalo is to provide its members, their families and guests with facilities and services amongst the finest and most highly respected in North America, while adhering to our core values.

#### VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the Country Club of Buffalo is to be amongst the finest private clubs in North America.









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## THE COUNTRY CLUB OF BUFFALO

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he Country Club of Buffalo has been an important part of the history of Buffalo, and its members have provided civic and business leadership throughout the community. The present location of the Country Club of Buffalo is actually its third. The Club was incorporated on February 11, 1889, and its first clubhouse, designed by E. B. Green, was opened in August of that year. Three of the founders of the Country Club were among the founders of the Buffalo Polo Club in 1878. Polo continued to be played on the Club grounds until 1935. In 1894, Club members placed an empty tomato can in the ground, and thus was born the first golf hole in Western New York. 🌸 The Club moved from its city location at Elmwood and Nottingham in 1899 to make way for the lavish Pan American Exposition. During this time, the clubhouse became the Women’s Building and the center for all women’s activities. The Club acquired land on the city line at Main and Bailey in 1900 and had the new course ready for play in 1902, with a new clubhouse designed by George Cary. During 1910 and 1911, Walter J. Travis revamped the course in anticipation of attracting a major tournament, which turned out to be the 1912 U.S. Open. 🌸 Acquisition of property in Williamsville began in 1922, and the Donald Ross-designed course opened in 1926. The clubhouse, designed by Duane Lyman, opened in 1927. The United States Women’s Amateur Championship was played on the new course in 1931, and the Curtis Cup was contested in 1950, with the American women defeating the British. The Carling Cup Matches between pro-amateur teams from the U.S. and Canada were held in 1960, and in 1962, the National Junior Girls Championship was played at the Country Club of Buffalo. 🌸 Progress has continued to the present, and the Country Club of Buffalo is proud to offer an unparalleled blend of traditional elegance and modern luxury to members for generations to come. Today, the Club shines with significant improvements and renovations to the golf course and the facilities, making it a gathering place for members, families and friends.





## THE CLUBHOUSE



hen Duane Lyman designed the clubhouse in 1926, he had a vision of making the complex look as though it had been converted from an old mill (the locker room), the miller's old brick house (the Grille), a stable (the boiler house), and various other support buildings dating from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The clubhouse proper represents the later and larger home of the mill owner. Inside, the clubhouse was designed and decorated in the American Colonial style. The clubhouse was deemed historically and architecturally significant under Local Landmark Criteria.

The beautiful clubhouse entrance hall is decorated with scenic wallpaper, printed in France by Zuber & Cie. Titled "Vues d'Amérique du Nord," this magnificent paper was originally created in 1843 by Jean-Julien Deltail, with New York panels added in 1861. The scenes depict Niagara Falls, New York; the Natural Bridge, Virginia; West Point and the Boston Tea Party. In 1961, when Jacqueline Kennedy was First Lady, she acquired a replica of the 32-panel set for the Diplomatic Reception Room in the White House, with the help of an antique hunter.

The gateway to the par 70 Donald Ross designed track immediately challenges the player. With the right side pocked with numerous bunkers and the left running along Youngs Road, the first tee shot requires concentration and precision. Drop the ball in the landing zone 100 yards out and be beckoned by a sloping green where ball placement below the hole is essential.

### HOLE 1 PAR 4, 364 YDS.



Each room of the clubhouse has a personality all its own. The Pine Room features wood paneling, bare-beamed ceilings and a large fireplace, and serves as a comfortable lounge for members year-round. The Club Room also has a fireplace, along with a southern view looking out on the golf course, featuring individual small-group seating arrangements, and a



modern, welcoming cocktail bar for members and guests to share beverages and casual dining. The formal dining room boasts two fireplaces and large windows overlooking the practice green to the south and the 18th hole to the north. On the North Terrace, the Club's architecture takes full advantage of its beautiful setting on top of the Onondaga escarpment with an uninterrupted view of the 18th hole, our shooting ranges and the northern horizon.

In addition, golfers often stop in to relax in the Donald Ross Grille, located on the lower level of the Club.







THE GOLF COURSE

**L**egendary golf architect Donald Ross displayed his creative genius when he designed the golf course, positioned on the Onondaga escarpment, running around and through a limestone quarry. Six of the holes – 5, 6, 7, 11, 12 and 13 – incorporate the unique beauty of the limestone. Holes 13, 17 and 18 are on the lower level below the escarpment. This arrangement actually provides the Country Club of Buffalo with two signature holes – the sixth, a par

The shortest par 4 on the course is akin to the Sirens in Homer's *Odyssey*. The reachable green sits on the horizon and calls for a player to test their restraint as the gulley and rocks are off to the right and awaiting the errant tee ball. The elevated green makes the approach shot further than it appears and numerous greenside bunkers test a player's nerve.

HOLE 5  
PAR 4, 301 YDS.



three located in the midst of an old quarry that in years past provided stone for many construction projects, and the 18<sup>th</sup>, which sits below a massive natural rock garden, with beautiful plantings leading up to the clubhouse. 🌳 The 1926 Donald Ross design has been preserved, while improvements were made by such notables as Robert Trent Jones in 1952-54, Geoffrey St. John Cornish in 1965 and 1983, and William Craig Schreiner in 1994-96. Recently, the course underwent a major restoration overseen by Ron Forse, and guided by Ross's original intent and character. The new golf course renovation was honored by *Golf Inc. Magazine* with a Best in Show distinction in the 2014 Renovation of the Year – Over \$1M – Private Club category. 🌳 The course was honored by *Golfweek Magazine* in 2004. The publication included the Country Club of Buffalo in the list of the Top 100 Classic Golf Courses in America (courses constructed before 1960). The Club enjoys reciprocal relationships with historic and traditional clubs in cities such as Toronto, Canada; Cleveland, OH; Pittsburgh, PA and Rochester, NY.

Donald Ross designed over one-quarter of all courses ranked on *Golfweek's* "Top 100 Classics" list (pre-1960) in America.

*The Buffalo News* called the Club's caddy services "the crown jewel of local caddy programs." Club members have access to approximately 100 independent caddies. Many of the caddies earn the opportunity to compete for an Evans Scholarship; Club members contribute to the Evans Scholars Foundation every year.





🍁 In 2012, the Club embarked on a complete restoration of the Donald Ross course inspired and guided by original blueprints and an aerial photo from 1927. Each hole was reviewed for historical accuracy while also taking into consideration modern playing equipment and turf grooming. The nearly \$2 million renovation concluded in 2013 with numerous improvements, including:

- 68 tee surfaces reconstructed, expanded, leveled or realigned; tees elevated post-Ross were returned to original grade to allow players to see the flow of the land.
- 17 fore bunkers were restored to aid in navigation
- 113 bunkers constructed – 105 in original size, shape and location
- Hour-glassed fairways were expanded to original size for tee strategy
- Each green was returned to its size and shape circa 1926
- The reinsertion of 6.5 acres of Ross-recommended native grass

Previously handicapped as the most difficult hole on the course, this long par 4 coaxes players towards the boundary off the tee. Find yourself in the rough, or a fairway bunker, and face a long second shot into a green that filters the ball from left to right.

### HOLE 3 PAR 4, 416 YDS.







## THE LOCKER ROOM

At the Country Club of Buffalo, the locker room is more than just a place to don your golf shoes. It's a communal space where members enjoy relaxing after a round of golf or playing cards with friends and guests. In our renovated men's and ladies' locker rooms, award-winning design pays homage to the Club's historical roots with period finishes and fixtures commonly used in the 1920s, including unique shower heads, custom-made marble sink tops with chrome bases, mosaic tile floors and wrought-iron chandeliers. Modern amenities, such as a members-only entrance, state-of-the-art golf simulator room and a fireside lounge to gather, also add to the experience.



This long par 3 with a hidden green is made even longer as it often manages to greet the player with a hurting wind. The large green that scarcely peeks over the mound that cuts across the fairway seems to taunt and dare the player with their approaching tee shot. However, hitting the expansive green is just the beginning as a putt of 50 feet may be waiting.

## HOLE 8

PAR 3, 207 YDS.







**HOLE 6**  
PAR 3, 167 YDS.



Surrounded by the rock walls of an old limestone quarry, this par 3 “pulpit hole” is spectacular for its beauty and degree of difficulty, and is a signature hole for the Club. The mound, upon which the long narrow green sits, rises from the quarry floor and places a premium on an accurate tee shot.







## THE EVENTS

The Country Club of Buffalo is the perfect venue for every type of event, throughout the four seasons. Wedding receptions may be held in the grandeur of the clubhouse or the spectacular beauty of the gardens and terraces. Club events extend from formal to informal settings, and always include excellent food and service in the perfect location. The dinner dances associated with golf tournaments have become valued traditions, especially the Memorial Tournament Celebration. Other popular events include Valentine's Day, Easter and Thanksgiving dinners. To celebrate the Christmas season, the clubhouse is beautifully decorated in anticipation of the "Grand Illumination," a dinner party at which the Christmas lights are turned on for the first time. This is soon followed by the black-tie Christmas

A short par 4 that features a slight uphill grade favors the player with a controlled draw. The landing area awaits unseen in the distance with troublesome grass mounds and bunkers to the left and the right hand side reigned in with large overhanging trees. Finding the welcoming patch of fairway about 100 yards out is only the beginning as the undulating green is enveloped by greenside bunkers and seemingly no clear point of entry.

**HOLE 10**  
PAR 4, 315 YDS.



Ball, and the Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve dinners. Less formal parties, with an emphasis on relaxed fun, include the "Summer Bash" during the two-day invitational and the Men's Christmas Stag Luncheon. A Friday night fish fry is a popular way to relax from the week's labors and enjoy good refreshment and fellowship with friends.





## THE DINING



Whether members and their guests are looking forward to enjoying fine food, sitting down for conversation in a quiet setting or simply sharing cocktails and appetizers in an elegant yet comfortable space, a variety of venues await at the Club.

The longest hole on the course follows a dog leg to an elevated green sitting atop the escarpment, which is generous in size but sharply contoured.

**HOLE 13**  
PAR 5, 531 YDS.



The bright, luxurious formal dining room, complete with two fireplaces and large windows, is the ideal setting for club and private dinner parties, wedding receptions and special Club events. When more space is needed for a special event, buffet dinner or dinner dance, adjoining rooms can be transformed to accommodate. The North Terrace, with its sliding glass panels, provides a delightful view. This area, along with the surrounding exterior terraces, is a beautiful natural setting for weddings, dinners and cocktail parties. The South Terrace provides a natural, open-air setting for informal enjoyment. Beyond the terrace is a lovely view of the first hole and the practice area. Responding to a growing member desire to gather and dine casually, The Club Room, with its larger bar and a variety of dining and lounge seating, was created to be the social centerpiece of the Club's various dining venues. The Donald Ross Grille, located on the lower level, provides accommodations for the daily golfers' luncheon in summer, and the shooters, skiers and platform tennis players' luncheon in winter. It is also available for private cocktail and dinner parties, and hosts golf tournament luncheons and dinners, and all shooters events.

### Six dining experiences

#### The North Terrace

A beautiful view accompanies your meal.

#### The South Terrace

An open-air setting to relax, meet and greet.

#### The Pine Room

A den of wood-paneled warmth.

#### The Dining Room

The ideal formal setting for any special occasion.

#### The Donald Ross Grille

Delicious food, casual dining.

#### The Club Room

The perfect place for a pre-dinner cocktail, or dinner itself.







## THE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

**P**latform tennis can be played throughout the year, but it is far more popular in the colder months. The two courts have heated decks to keep them in playing condition in snowy and icy weather. A Friday night game, combined with an informal dinner at the Grille, is a popular weekend ritual. Occasionally, matches are played with other clubs in the area, such as the Saturn Club or Country Club of Rochester. 🌳 The Club has a long history of competitive sport shooting offering a rustic lodge with stone fireplace and four shotgun ranges including skeet, trap, five-stand and the brush walk. Brush walk is an event that simulates field hunting and is unique to only a few clubs around the country. At the end of the winter shooting season, handicap and scratch shoots are held to identify the Club champions. 🌳 The Club is also home to two sports that depend totally on Buffalo's famous winter weather – ice skating and cross-country skiing. When possible, a man-made ice rink is frozen just south of the clubhouse. When the snow falls, an interesting and scenic cross-country trail is prepared around the golf course.



The Club shooters treasure the brush walk, a competitive shotgun shooting course similar to field hunting. There are only a few like it in the country.





## THE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

**T**he Country Club of Buffalo has evolved to be more than a destination for relaxation, excellent golf and delicious food, and today, it's also a place that the whole family will adore. Children and parents alike enjoy a myriad of events and activities that simply never get old. 🌸 The Fourth of July celebration is always one of the best-loved family outings. Games are set up for the children, and golfers enjoy putting and driving contests. 🌸 A sumptuous buffet dinner precedes the spectacular fireworks display, viewed from the top of



the escarpment on the North Terrace. 🌸 Families at the Country Club of Buffalo enjoy the availability of several sports facilities in addition to golf, thereby making the Club a place for all ages and seasons. Members may also utilize these facilities for private parties to be enjoyed by young people as well as adults. 🌸 Sunbathers and serious swimmers alike enjoy the spacious swimming area, and

Hitting uphill, against the wind to a well-bunkered green that slopes sharply from left to right, makes this the most difficult of the par 3 holes.

**HOLE 16**  
PAR 3, 173 YDS.



the Club's swim team, composed of members' children, competes with teams from other clubs. Swimming instruction is provided to new and experienced swimmers. Dressing facilities and a snack bar are available for the convenience of all participants. 🌸 Two hard-surface and two Har-Tru tennis courts provide ample space for our tennis players. Professional staff provides training for youth and adult players, and the tennis tournaments are popular Club events.



With various activities involving tennis, golf, swimming and holiday events, the Club is fun for the whole family.



## THE ACCOMMODATIONS



omfort, convenience, luxury – the delightful guest rooms at the Country Club of Buffalo are rich in all three qualities.

The graceful, circular staircase from the main floor leads to these lovely accommodations, which are perfect for one-night or extended stays. The Club offers both bedrooms and suites for overnight accommodations, all of which overlook the golf course, and are comfortably and tastefully furnished with antiques. Meals are available in the clubhouse, and transportation to and from the nearby Buffalo Niagara International Airport can be provided. These accommodations are particularly convenient when members have out-of-town guests or tournament partners from other clubs.



This hole rises gradually against the wind, following a right dog leg to a very generous green sloping from left to right.

**HOLE 18**  
PAR 4, 401 YDS.

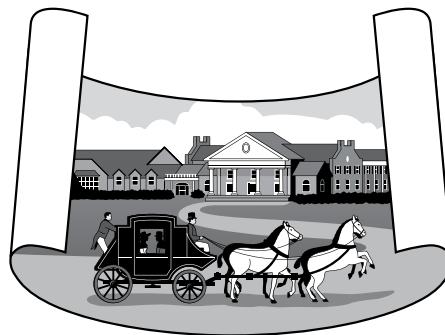








THE GAME OF GOLF IN WESTERN NEW YORK HAD ITS BEGINNING AT THE  
COUNTRY CLUB OF BUFFALO, THE OLDEST AND FINEST CLUB IN THE AREA.







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