





Photos: Courtesy of Quail Lodge & Golf Club

DESTINATIONS



QUAIL LODGE & GOLF CLUB

Carmel, California

BY RENEE BRINCKS

As Quail Lodge & Golf Club approaches 60 years of guest service in Carmel Valley, the resort team is unveiling updates designed to promote relaxation and reconnect travelers with nature.

Redesigned rooms, fresh restaurant menus and a new e-bike picnic experience are among the highlights.

"What sets us apart is that Quail Lodge is an idyllic, restful and peaceful getaway," says Kai Lermen, the resort's managing director. "It's quiet luxury. We promote the art of doing nothing, but we also offer a lot of amenities."

Quail Lodge dates to 1964, when Edgar Haber and a group of investors opened an 18-hole golf course on the footprint of a former Carmel Valley dairy farm. An associated hotel first welcomed guests a few years later, and then expanded over time. Today, Quail Lodge has 93 rooms, including 16 suites and two luxurious fairway villas.

Wide-ranging resort renovations completed since 2021 brought new design details to all rooms and suites, outfitting accommodations with crisp white linens and furniture in soft shades of blue and green. Technology upgrades range from Tivoli radios in the suites and villas to a smart television system with a wide channel selection, new streaming options and helpful property information. Rooms also feature wireless internet connections, wireless device chargers, Nespresso coffeemakers and Molton Brown bath products.

Newly expanded patios outside six fairway-facing bungalows open to views of the resort pond and gardens. While revamping the landscape dur-



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ing the patio project, crews counted more than 40 plant species on the grounds. The resort team saw an opportunity to better connect guests with the lavender, camellias, parlor palms and Australian tree ferns lining garden pathways.

Children now can win a prize by completing a playful botanical scavenger hunt, and new signage explores various plant highlights.

"Guests can roam the property freely, and we put signs out so that people know what they're

walking by on the grounds," Lermen says.

Some of those walks lead to Edgar's Restaurant and Bar, which offers daily lunch service and happy hour specials in the Quail Lodge Clubhouse. The Covey Grill, off the resort lobby, opens daily for breakfast and serves bar snacks and dinner on select nights (check the website for seasonal schedules). Executive Chef Goran Basarov leads the resort's culinary team, dishing up steaks, seafood and California fare made with ingredients from local farmers and growers.

The Covey Grill reopened in 2023 after a full indoor-outdoor remodel. Wooden beams



The grounds of Quail Lodge are lush and verdant, and native plants abound. The pool area provides an inviting calm within the beautiful landscape for a peaceful swim or relaxation in the sun.

Whether guests are golfers interested in convenient course access, families looking for a home base as they explore the Monterey Bay, or Bay Area professionals ready to unwind after a busy work week, Quail Lodge fits the bill.



Quail Lodge is a family-friendly golf resort, perfect both for the serious golf enthusiast—with its 6,500-yard, par-71 course—or for the young novice who just wants to try their hand at putting.

cross vaulted ceilings above the bar and dining areas, which are decorated with a stone fireplace, marble-topped tables and earthy gray textiles. Select pieces of art honor the property's automobile connections: Quail Lodge hosts the annual Quail Motorcycle Gathering in May, and The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering each August.

The Covey Grill's open-air patio seats overlook the pond and the surrounding flowers, ferns, native grasses and greens. Those greens are part of a 6,500-yard, par-71 Robert Muir Graves-designed golf course that was refreshed in 2015 by Todd Eckenrode of Origins Golf Design. Fairways wind along

the Carmel River, and various tee options let players customize their experience. Greenskeeper.org regularly recognizes the course for its excellent playing conditions.

"Most people do not need a cart. It's a very walkable course," Lermen says.

PGA Director of Golf Instruction Katherine Marren oversees the Quail Lodge Golf Academy, which offers private and semi-private instruction, a beginners' lesson series, junior programs, and clinics that cover putting, short-game basics, swing improvements, strategy and other topics. The Northern California PGA named Marren its Women's Player of the Year in 2022.

"She came here from the Pebble Beach Golf Academy, and she is very well respected in the community," Lermen says.

Quail Lodge Golf Club hosts social events like glow golf and an annual tournament that raises funds for scholarships benefiting Monterey County students. Players here also find a well-stocked pro shop and an all-grass, nine-hole putting course where LED tee markers sparkle after dark. Fire pit seating accommodates parents who want to sample wine while their children try out the putting course.

Beyond the greens, families enjoy checking out electric bicycles and traditional pedal cycles (both reservable at the front desk) to explore



the resort grounds. Overnight guests can order to-go lunches and take the e-bikes to the property's far reaches for a peaceful picnic, or amp things up with off-road adventures available through the on-site Land Rover Experience Driving School. Spa Adeline offers massages and facials at Quail Lodge, as well.

Whether guests are golfers interested in convenient course access, families looking for a home base as they explore the Monterey Bay, or Bay Area professionals ready to unwind after a busy work week, Quail Lodge fits the bill.

"It's a little hidden gem in the valley that offers the serenity and tranquility that people are seeking," says Lermen.

Quail Lodge is located just off Carmel Valley Road at 8205 Valley Greens Drive. For more information, visit www.quaillodge.com or call 866/675-1101.



Indoor and outdoor dining is available at both of the Quail Lodge restaurants, with Edgar's Restaurant and Bar (above) at the golf clubhouse, and the Covey Grill (below), located just off the resort lobby.